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CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE (CPRG) PROGRAM

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AECID	<i>Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo</i> (Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation)
ADELSAR	<i>Agencia de Desarrollo Económico Local de Santa Rosa de Copán</i> (Local Strategic Development Agency of Santa Rosa de Copán)
CAMR	Care Center for Returned Migrants
CAP	Community Action for Prosperity
CASM	<i>Comisión de Acción Social Menonita</i> (Menonite Social Action Commission)
CDH	<i>Centro de Desarrollo Humano</i> (Human Development Center)
CEPROSAF	<i>Centro de Promoción en Salud y Asistencia Familiar</i> (Center for Health Promotion and Family Assistance)
CIPE	<i>Centro de Investigación, Planeación y Evaluación</i> (Center for Investigation, Planning and Evaluation)
CIPRODEH	<i>Centro de Investigación y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos</i> (Center of Human Rights Research and Promotion in Honduras)
COSOCITELA	<i>Coalición de la Sociedad Civil de Tela</i> (Tela Civil Society Coalition)
CRC	Community Revitalization Committee
CRG	Community Revitalization Grant
CRP	Community Revitalization Project
CSCI	Comisión de Seguridad Ciudadana Integral - Comprehensive Citizen Security Commission
CSO	Civil Society Organization
FUNADEH	<i>Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo de Honduras</i> (National Foundation for Honduran Development)
GIZ	German Society for International Cooperation
GOH	Government of Honduras
INHFA	Honduran Institute for Children and Families
ISCPG	Institutional Support and Civic Participation Grant
MAG	Municipal Advocacy Grant
MCSCC	Municipal Citizen Security and Coexistence Councils
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MIS	Management Information System
MDSC	Municipal Development and Security Council
MVPC	Municipal Violence Prevention Council
MVPU	Municipal Violence Prevention Unit
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PASMO	Pan American Social Marketing Organization
PIOCG	Public Information Outreach Campaign Grants
PNPRRS	<i>Programa Nacional de Prevención, Reinserción y Rehabilitación Social</i> (National Program for Prevention, Reinsertion and Social Rehabilitation)
RFA	Request for Applications
SEPLAN	<i>Secretaría de Planificación</i> (Ministry of Planning)

YN
YNSG

Youth Networks
Youth Network Strengthening Grants

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Citizen Participation for Responsive Governance (CPRG) program, known locally in Honduras as Impactos and referred to as the “Program” in this report, is a five-year initiative funded by USAID and implemented by Counterpart International, in partnership with the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) and Management Systems International (MSI). The Impactos program consists of two independent yet very intertwined and complementary components: 1) the CPRG component, which aims to increase the transparency and accountability of public institutions through support for civil society-led initiatives, and 2) the Community Action for Prosperity (CAP) component, which aims to improve citizen and community safety by strengthening local communities' and governments' ability to prevent threats from gangs and drug trafficking.

During this quarter CSOs presented their grant expenses of USD 274,338.81. The accumulated amount until June 2014 is USD 1,236,996.57. In the quarter April-June 2014, CSOs' cost share was registered and approved for an amount of USD 38,992.30. The accumulated amount until June 2014 is USD 272,369.60. As of June 30, 2014, CAP has implemented 40 grants for a total amount of USD 1,766,815.97 (including cost share).

The IMPACTOS program has made significant progress during this quarter. Among the most noteworthy is the coordination achieved with other CARS members such as UNDP and PASMO, for the implementation of activities to strengthen local governments and the development of training activities at the community level.

Significant progress was also achieved in the development of the public information outreach campaign, reaching 93% of the goal for the life of project this quarter.

Important progress has also been achieved in the voluntary work performed by CRCs and Youth Networks. The fruits of the various capacity strengthening processes are now evident. Many community activities have been developed by locally led initiatives and through the leadership of young and adult community program participants. In addition, important alliances with local governments have been forged as evidenced by the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the CRCs of Tela and the Municipal Corporation.

The participation of young leaders has also been outstanding and motivating, as they increasingly develop their leadership skills. Enhanced youth leadership skills have been observed through their participation in campaign activities and as they engage in motivational talks to disseminate positive messages for other young people in their communities, to motivate the latter to participate in violence prevention activities. Revitalization projects are also generating significant results with 734 people engaged in various activities this quarter, impacting the lives of 398 young community members by giving them the opportunity to access education and improve their labor skills through technical vocational trainings. In addition, these participants received from the project small, in-kind contributions consisting of basic learning tools so that they can begin to apply the knowledge acquired as a means toward helping them begin to generate income for their families. (Awards included: beauty kits, barber equipment and cooking utensils to prepare breads and pastries).

More detailed information is presented below regarding the main achievements obtained in the different project activities during this reporting period as a result of the dedicated work performed by CAP's CSO implementing partners.

II. POLITICAL CONTEXT

This reporting quarter, the underlying societal conditions in Honduras that development programs such as the US-funded Central American Regional Security Initiative (CARSI) and the CAP project strive to address have come to the forefront of public attention.

The growing illegal immigration crisis on the US border, which includes large influxes of undocumented Hondurans, is a result of persistent poverty and insecurity generated by gang warfare in Honduran communities, corruption fueled by the illicit drug trade, poor governance, weak rule of law systems, and the politicization of the public service function, all of which have contributed over the past few years to a situation of institutional collapse that the new administration of Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernandez has inherited and has yet to fully tackle.

With high levels of crime and violence (79 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants according to figures from the Violence Observatory of the National Autonomous University of Honduras), the estimates of the annual *costs* of violence to the country are thought to be around 10% of GDP (about USD 900 million).

As the Honduran state still struggles to address the most basic needs for socio-economic opportunity and security, increasing numbers of Hondurans feel that justice and security can only be found elsewhere. As Carlos Paz, director of the San Pedro Sula office of the Impactos partner Cáritas has stated: *“For many people the choice is to flee or to die.”*

In the first six months of 2014, about 30,000 undocumented Hondurans were deported from the United States and Mexico for illegal immigration according to the Care Center for Returned Migrants (CAMR). This year 13,282 children and adolescents were registered as detained unauthorized migrants, many of them traveling alone in the hands of human smugglers, the so-called “coyotes.”

The region is thus experiencing high levels of illegal immigration by unaccompanied Central American juvenile migrants, an issue increasingly capturing the attention of US, Honduran and international media and policy makers.

With 60% of the Honduran population below the poverty line, the socio-economic situation in Honduras seems to have improved little. Honduran annual GDP growth declined from 3.7% in 2011 to 2.8% in 2013, and is projected to further fall to 2.5% by the end of 2014. GDP reliance on remittances is evidenced by World Bank estimates that the proportion of GDP derived from Honduran emigrant remittances ranged from 20% - 25% in 2013.¹

The Honduran State’s inability to improve socio-economic conditions, combat endemic corruption, and safeguard rule of law has fostered conditions by which a number of criminal groups (transnational street

¹ World Bank sources and as cited at <http://www.hondurasweekly.com/money/item/11446-latin-american-remittances-heavily-impacted-by-global-economy>

gangs and drug cartels) have flourished, and as they engage in territorial “turf” wars, have generated levels of violence that have steadily grown in the country since the late 2000s.

In the battle for control of drug trafficking routes, neighborhoods and human-smuggling operations, the most vulnerable victims of Honduran violence are now perceived to be the children. The role of gang violence against children resulting from recruiting efforts is increasingly recognized as one factor driving juvenile emigration.

Recent analysis by researchers suggests that children are being encouraged to migrate as an escape from gang threats and violence, where their vulnerability has become so evident that some families conclude they have no choice but to send their children on the long and dangerous overland journey to the US, to seek not only social and economic opportunity, but also safety from the threat of gangs.

Accounts and testimonies from victims have demonstrated that seeking an education and a positive, gang-free lifestyle can be life-threatening for children in gang-controlled areas. This past year Honduran school-age children have become frequent targets as criminal gangs recruit new members and “youth runners” to facilitate criminal activities. In the most violent communities, the simple act of attending school can be dangerous for youth, with gangs using school environs as territory for recruitment of new members. If a young person refuses to accede to the gang's demands, they are often harshly punished or even murdered, as has been witnessed on multiple occasions in the past year.

Complicating the crisis, the current weak and corrupt police and enforcement systems fail to offer meaningful protection, leaving migration as a preferred option. This situation helps explain why so many claim they have no other choice but to leave the country.

The insecurity, combined with the lack of socio-economic opportunity, leads many young people to make the decision to emigrate. Extreme criminality may be driving the recent surge of youth emigration, but the high levels of violence and insecurity are deeply related to poverty. Improving security measures and law enforcement may help reduce levels of violence and impunity of perpetrators, but creating opportunity for youth employment will be essential to gradually and sustainably lowering levels of violence.

ANALYSIS

A May 2014 US Congressional Research Service Report on the USG-funded *Central America Regional Security Initiative (CARS)* noted that, “The security situation in Central America has deteriorated in recent years as gangs, drug traffickers, and other criminal groups have expanded their activities in the region, contributing to escalating levels of crime and violence that have alarmed citizens and threaten to overwhelm governments...Given the proximity of Central America, instability in the region -- whether in the form of declining support for democracy as a result of corrupt governance, drug traffickers acting with impunity as a result of weak state presence, or increased emigration as a result of economic and physical insecurity – [these factors are] – likely to affect the United States.” In the last days of this quarterly report period, the effect on US southern border populations is all too clear, with a significant increase in unaccompanied Central American youth migrants. According to the US Customs and Border Protection, more than 57,000 minors arrived in the first nine months of this fiscal year (October 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014), with the total expected to reach 90,000 by fall. The President of the United States has directed an inter-agency Unified Coordination Group to address the situation, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has been appointed to provide response efforts to ensure that Federal agencies are unified in providing relief to the affected children. Border security operations have been

increased and US Government continue to work closely with the governments of Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador to counter this recent surge in migrant children.²

Within the same set of interdependent issues, the effects of increasing gang violence in the communities where IMPACTOS works has been significant. IMPACTOS works with youth to identify and facilitate alternatives to gang life. It orients community youth to positive values, youth leadership, social and labor opportunities. The plight of some young people however is that they are literally being targeted by gangs for threats, and even death, because they resist being recruited; according to the United Nations refugee agency forty-four percent of displaced children were threatened with or were victims of violence by organized armed criminal actors³. This poses multiple challenges to CAP efforts to encourage positive alternatives to gang life, and to the violence that it engenders.

The fact that the situation of violence in the communities affects the implementation of the IMPACTOS project should not be ignored. In many communities, especially those located in big cities like Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula, the CAP program is one of a dependent nature. Any individual or collective action is carried out only if there are security conditions in the environment that allow for the mobilization of people, and the implementation of activities that involve the participation of a great number of citizens.

One major challenge has been incorporating practices into communities that have managed to develop community members' confidence in the CSOs' technical staff, as well as implementing innovative activities that reflect the project's purpose to bring benefits to all residents without any type of exclusion.

Progress has been made in this area, as demonstrated by the level of participation of the people in the project. However, there is always the eventual limiting appearance of criminal activities and delinquent groups that affect the population, causing communities to regress for a period of time in some cases.

While the situation of violence in communities represents an incentive to implement the project to improve this situation, it should also be understood that in certain communities, even after two years of project implementation, there continue to be adverse circumstances and situations that have generated distrust within the community, affecting the morale of both the people and the project technicians. Examples of this during this quarter include two tragic events in which two children were killed. One involved the death of a ten-year-old boy in one of the target communities in San Pedro Sula, accidentally killed with a firearm in a clash between gangs in a school where project trainings are usually held.. The second involved the murder of an 18-year-old who was awarded a scholarship by the project through the EDUCATODOS system. Both victims belonged to the Jesus R. Gonzales community of San Pedro Sula. Both cases remain unsolved by the police.

It should be understood that, although CAP seeks to prevent violence, the locations of project intervention can be quite dangerous. In some communities, both supervisors and technicians of IMPACTOS and partner CSOs detect heightened threat environments. This creates difficulty in monitoring activities,

² See US Border Patrol estimates at: <http://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-border-unaccompanied-children>

³http://www.unhcrwashington.org/sites/default/files/1_UAC_Children%20On%20the%20Run_Executive%20Summary.pdf

limiting to a certain extent the intervention in these areas. Generally, Impactos technical consultants are highly respected and well received in the communities where they work. However, where there is generally acceptance even by gangs and some criminal groups that the program is not threatening to their special interests, cases in Tegucigalpa, Choluteca, San Pedro Sula and Choloma have found groups with criminal connections indicating they may challenge the program by generating some levels of purposeful intimidation and chaos as a way of manifesting their organizational strength, and causing fear among target populations to even walk freely in their communities. In these situations, inhabitants of the communities have alerted Impactos staff and provided recommendations on security measures to be taken, such as: adjusting the hours and days of visits to the communities; changing the locations where trainings are held; and postponing certain activities. The community leaders measure the security status of the community, and act to protect the technical consultants.

The flow of crime occurs seasonally. Although it is not known exactly what the causes are that can trigger gang clashes and rises in criminal activity, a greater presence of police patrols is needed as the legitimate authority within communities to protect citizens.

The program has received information from CSOs that there have been several cases of migration of the inhabitants of the communities, especially in San Pedro Sula. It has come to our attention that several people previously involved in the project no longer live in the communities. While no one understands fully the magnitude and characteristics of migration in these areas, the main causes have certainly been the lack of security and employment opportunities.

As a result, the work being done at the community level is important in demonstrating that implementation of activities within communities requires nearly daily analysis of the environment, events within the communities, and the impact of the economic situation. This is a day-to-day reality that exists in the country, and therefore both civil society and government should focus on reducing violence and crime. However, a lot of work remains in terms of developing economic and social opportunities for the majority of citizens. Ultimately the consequences suffered today are the results of high levels of inequality, which has become a problem of national security.

Despite this situation, the project has demonstrated the determination and resilience of much of the Honduran adult and youth population. The boldness and decisive attitude of the people who remain in the communities and who voluntarily contribute to society, and even those migrants who decide to seek new and better opportunities, demonstrate their perseverance and ability to face adversity and recover from the often traumatic circumstances that have impacted their lives.

In early June, General John Kelly, Commander of the US Southern Command (SouthCom), visited Honduras. During the same period, a US Southern Command civic action team that visited CAP target communities in Choloma and Tegucigalpa met with CRCs and Youth Network members to learn about the activities implemented by CAP on violence prevention and community development. Community members expressed their willingness to continue working to benefit their communities through actions catalyzed within the CAP framework. SouthCom team members acknowledged their appreciation for the positive mindset, volunteerism and civic-minded initiatives fostered by CAP's work with youth and adults alike, to build communities free of violence. The visiting SouthCom team observed how the trust and working relationship with community members empowered these CAP project communities to better address violence and challenges to public safety.

While the relatively modest funding of CARSI, CAP, and other international development programs in Honduras is unlikely to be able to create a full, comprehensive and integral response to the root causes of

socio-economic instability and insecurity, CAP is making a positive difference in the targeted communities. In that sense, and as a CARS pilot program, accompanying the model's proven methodologies and scalability with additional and sufficient resources, it has already demonstrated a positive effect on community cohesiveness and resilience to challenges in its limited target areas of influence.

III. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES BY RESULTS

Objective 1. Improve Multi-sector capacity to provide coordinated and integrated responses to changing security needs.

1.1 Select and train/strengthen up to nine implementing CSO partners

During June, technical assistance was provided to CSO partners Children International, CASM, COSOCITELA, FUNADEH, CDH, CEPROSAF, CIPE, and ADELSAR on the process of preparing final reports for the concluded grants, and on developing assessments tied to the closure of projects. A total of 12 grants were concluded between March and June (3-ISCPG, 7-YNSG, 2-CRG), leaving four grants that remain in implementation phase: two with CDH (ISCPG-San Miguel sector and CRG-Carrizal sectors), one with CASM (CRG), and one with COSOCITELA (ISCPG).

CAP's technical team has dedicated this quarter to compiling information from the different reports prepared by partner CSOs, verifying results, measuring progress toward performance indicators, and entering verification data into the Management Information System (MIS). In addition, the team has been ensuring that all requisite project documentation is formally presented by CSOs in order to facilitate timely closure of those project agreements that are coming to an end. This process is expected to be completed in July.

On April 9th, a workshop and work meeting were held with Executive Directors and Project Managers of CAP's nine CSO partners⁴. The purpose of the workshop was to guide participating CSOs on the range of technical and budgetary aspects and processes related to the new grant application cycle, and to discuss, review and seek consensus on the new lines of intervention, outputs and outcomes for the implementation of new projects under the new modality of "umbrella" combined grant agreements, which potentially includes ISCPG, CRG and MAG grants. As a result of this activity, valuable inputs were obtained from the CSOs, which helped to establish new guideline and requirement language in the Request for Application (RFA) used to apply for new grants in the next application cycle. The modified RFA document has been submitted to USAID for review and approval.

During May, adjustments were made to the grant rollout plan for the remainder of the program according to the need to optimize use of the remaining program budget, with the objective of achieving maximum program impact and sustainability. This involved a process of review and in depth analysis at program mid-point of the current implementation environment found in each community, including (1) degrees of local community ownership and leadership, as well as (2) political will at the local level to contribute to results, as factors influencing the potential of communities and local governments to achieve desired performance outcomes.

⁴ CDH, CASM, CI, CEPROSAF, COSOCITELA, FUNADEH, ADELSAR, CIPE and CESAL.

In June, Counterpart International submitted a CPRG/Impactos program and budget modification proposal to USAID for consideration, including CAP's grant rollout plan for the remainder of the life of the program. A new grant approval process will begin once USAID approves the RFA and program plan and budget modification request.

1.2 Carry out initial activities of program publicity.

Actions related to this activity were not scheduled for this reporting period. CAP routinely publicizes commencement of activities among community members only when a new grant agreement is signed.

1.3 Carry out rapid community diagnostic of target communities.

During this quarter, analysis of data collected during the previous year has been in progress. A final report is expected to be completed by the end of July.

1.4 Establish and strengthen community revitalization committees in each community.

Community participation and volunteerism was promoted and encouraged among community leaders through strengthening processes designed to improve organizational capacity skills for community development. The Community Revitalization Committees (CRCs) continued to be strengthened in their individual and collective community leadership functions, with an emphasis on proactive community-based organization (CBO) leadership targeting social development and promotion of violence prevention initiatives. As a result, and with the support of civil society organization (CSO) partners and technical assistance and financial support provided by the IMPACTOS Program through CAP, participating community leaders have demonstrated the ability to plan and develop actions *prioritized and proposed by them*.

Some highlighted CRC activities are as follows:

- **CRCs leverage private sector resources**

The Community Revitalization Committees (CRCs) have developed management skills and assumed their role as promoters to achieve better social conditions in their communities. Concrete examples of this progress during this reporting period are found within the CRCs from the Bordo Gavión and Callejas communities in the municipality of San Pedro Sula, where they have identified and managed resources from donations made by the private sector. As a result, the **Cervecería Hondureña** supported both communities with the following donations:

- **Bordo Gavión:** 10 school desks for the Edmond Bográn School, as well as material to repaint walls, windows and doors in classrooms and the director's office; trash cans and five cement bags to help the school finish the restrooms.
- **Col. Callejas:** Streetlamp and wire for electrical installation to light the community sports field, and material for sanding and painting goalposts, trashcans and plants. A total of 24 members from the CRCs and Youth Networks (YN) participated in clean-up activities, tree planting and activities to improve the community sports field.

- **Tragedy sparks a project plan**

On April 25th, representatives of the CRC, parents and church leaders of the Lifeline Church (a location where CAP project workshops are frequently held) from the community Jesus R. Gonzalez held a meeting with municipal authorities of the Superintendent of Citizen Participation (*Superintendencia de Participación Ciudadana*) regarding the situation of violence and recent attacks suffered by the population. Community members shared their concerns over the violent event that took place in the Lifeline Church/School, where a student was killed by criminals in a tragic clash between gangs. The

authorities agreed to deliver to the Municipal Mayor of San Pedro Sula a petition to donate the land adjacent to the school to prevent it from further being used for criminal acts, with a plan to convert it into a school playground for children, as a joint collaborative project of the municipal government, the parents, the CRC and the church. This initiative still awaits a response from the Mayor's Office.

- **CRC training reenergizes local volunteerism**

After a period of inactivity following the completion of projects implemented by CIPRODEH in the communities of San Miguel, La Travesía, Sosa and La Era, CSO partner CDH has reengaged with community leaders in the project in anticipation of further support initiatives in the San Miguel sector. This quarter, community leaders received management training to enable them to promote initiatives benefiting their communities. For this purpose, 116 CRC members from target communities in Tegucigalpa (La Era, La Sosa and La Travesía) were trained in planning and project formulation, and in analyzing and prioritizing community social needs to promote, socialize and develop community projects. During late April and early May, a two-day training event was developed for each CRC in citizen participation, planning, and project formulation, based on the prioritization of their major needs, problems, and identification of solutions. Along with these leadership-focused activities, the CAP-supported project has also encouraged community involvement and volunteerism, and has achieved motivation of leaders to participate in the process of strengthening community-based organizations.

Seventeen leaders from the San Miguel community participated in activities for the Reactivation of the CRC. Meetings were held in May between community leaders and representatives from CDH to discuss future violence prevention and community organization activities in San Miguel. The CRC expressed their hopes to move forward and make changes in their communities through various community projects.

- **Formation of an Intercommunity Committee**

A community-building process has been developed, aimed at promoting human development through education, as well as developing linkages and partnerships between community networks. On May 10th, 86 members of the four CRCs and Youth Networks from Choluteca gathered to exchange their experiences, identify difficulties faced in implementing initiatives, and to share their achievements. As a result of this meeting, the four CRCs from Choluteca created the *Intercommunity Committee*, to build cooperation and to promote coordination between the four target communities in Choluteca. The Intercommunity Committee⁵ seeks to incorporate acquired knowledge and skills in civic projects, and boost community based organizations, as well as identify and use available resources to increase the positive impact of their work. The CRC Regulation document was developed in order to define their organizational structure in the four target municipalities of Choluteca.

CRCs from target communities in Tela were strengthened to enforce their rights for a life free from violence. With CAP assistance, Tela communities strengthened their knowledge of community development and abilities to identify different forms of violence. Twenty-two members of the CRCs from Tela were trained in themes of violence prevention, gender violence and structural violence, the latter referring to systematic ways in which social structures harm or otherwise disadvantage individuals. The leaders became familiar with typologies on the various forms of violent behaviors and their causality, and at the end of the training a course exercise concluded that the common denominator of all violent actions is the lack of respect for human dignity.

⁵ Intercommunity Committee was established on May 10.

- **Overcoming Resistance to Change**

Forty-one CRC members from the communities Grant and Tornabé were trained⁶ on strategic planning, including subjects such as "Strategies to Reduce Resistance to Change" and "Commitment." The training was intended to strengthen the leaders' capacity to address community work through new strategies, or by refining strategies already being implemented with strengthened or recommitted community involvement.

1.5 Conduct Participatory Community Crime Appraisal (PCCA).

Ninety-three Youth Network members in San Pedro Sula engaged in participatory processes to identify issues faced by the youth in their communities. With technical assistance provided by CAP grantee Children International, they compiled ideas for intervention, and subsequently prioritized actions that the Youth Networks could implement. These Youth Networks designed their first Community Youth Action Plans and developed violence prevention activities to improve social opportunities for children and young people. During different youth camps, the young participants established project initiatives focused on community improvement and beautification, as well as health-related activities on the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse, prevention of teenage pregnancy, and the promotion of moral values, among others. *(Please refer to Annexes C1, C2, C3 and C4)*

1.6 Present the EPCD to the communities

This activity was not programmed for this quarter.

1.7 Prepare annual community strategic action plans.

This activity will be programmed with the renewal of new grants.

1.8 Raise community capacity for monitoring and participative evaluation.

CRC members from the communities of J.R Gonzáles, San Vicente de Paul and Bordo Gavión in San Pedro Sula are actively participating in monitoring the implementation of community revitalization projects. The Monitoring Committee, formed by the CRCs, monitors the performance of youth beneficiaries and their use and good stewardship of the grants, so they can successfully finish their training processes. Monitoring activities include tracking the performance of scholarship recipients participating in vocational training, and conducting meetings with parents to share the progress of their children in the courses as a way to encourage parental support of young beneficiaries in the educational process. In May, two assemblies took place with the above 78 parents and 82 scholarship beneficiaries drawn from the non-formal education system EDUCATODOS and the vocational training program. The follow-up or Monitoring Committee of the CRCs met with the parents to learn about the progress of the young beneficiaries, and to develop mutual plans with parents that are supportive of the young people's needs to strengthen their knowledge and maximize the learning process.

Community Assemblies took place for the first time in target communities in Choluteca, motivating participating organizations and mobilizing the communities to address and seek solutions to issues of violence. Participation of 346 members of the target communities of Choluteca (83-El Porvenir, 86-Sagrado Corazón, 92-Panamericana, 85-Colonias Unidas) occurred in the Community Assemblies⁷ convened by the CRCs and Youth Networks.

⁶ Activities conducted on May 23 - 24.

⁷ Assemblies took place during May.

Community leaders from the CRCs and Youth Networks joined to share information with the communities on the civic actions undertaken and ongoing training processes, and CRC organizational and Youth Network preparations. After listening to briefs on the achievements and activities carried out under the project, community leaders encouraged their neighbors to join the effort and engage in violence prevention activities. Following a process of analysis and evaluation of progress made to date by community leaders, this activity also had the purpose of informing the communities on actions undertaken as a means of encouraging expanded participation by other community members.

1.9 Identify and strengthen Municipal Violence Prevention or Development Councils in each Municipality.

Created with the technical assistance of IMPACTOS, the Commission for Comprehensive Citizen Security of Santa Rosa de Copan (CSCI – Acronym in Spanish) was officially presented on May 9th to municipal authorities and representatives of cooperation agencies. The commission is comprised of nine representatives of civil society organizations, the public sector, national police, churches and the justice sector. IMPACTOS supported the founding process of the CSCI through publicity and consultation with private sector and civil society, government institutions, local institutions, and municipal staff.

The CSCI issued its work plan during the last week of May. IMPACTOS provided two trainings on violence prevention and continues supporting the CSCI with assistance through trainings on local security policy and work sessions defining priorities for immediate implementation requirements. CSCI's main advocacy objective is to achieve the certification of a local security policy to obtain national funds from the security tax.

1.10 Improve the use of CARSII resources by CRCs and the CMPVs

On June 9th, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Population Services International - Pan American Social Marketing Organization (PSI/PASMO) with CDH and IMPACTOS. The MOU established coordination mechanisms for the development of training in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, with the mutually shared target being youth populations in Tegucigalpa communities. The MOU also aims to involve the participation of CRCs and Youth Networks in these processes. This initiative seeks to contribute to increasing knowledge and reducing negative impacts of early teenage pregnancy on family units (*Please refer to Annex D*).

On June 28th, the first coordination meeting between PASMO and CDH was conducted to schedule training activities for the next trimester in the sectors of Carrizal and San Miguel. PASMO will provide the trainer, training materials and refreshments, while CDH will be responsible for organizing the group of participants and other logistics related to event locations.

During this quarter, significant progress was achieved in the coordination with UNDP in relation to the CRC, MCCS and MVPC training processes that will be conducted next quarter. Some of the agreements and progress made include:

- IMPACTOS-CAP will provide contact information to UNDP regarding the CSO partners, for them to be considered and invited to participate in trainings or diploma/certification courses that will be sponsored by UNDP. One member of the CRCs from Tela and one technical person from CSO partner COSOCITELA, both nominated by CAP, will receive the Diploma Course in Mediation and Conflict Resolution. The course will be certified by the National Autonomous University of Honduras (UNAH).
- The content of a basic training plan was jointly discussed with UNDP, to strengthen the capacities of members of the Municipal Councils of Citizen Security (MCCS), members of the Municipal

Violence Prevention Committees (MVPC), municipal technical personnel who will be responsible for the Municipal Violence Prevention Unit (MVPU), or the office within the local government in charge of addressing citizen security issues, and other members of the municipal corporations. IMPACTOS and UNDP will coordinate with each other to conduct logistical and technical activities to develop the training activities.

- It was agreed that the institutional profile of the MVPU should be developed. The document will undergo a consultation process with the municipal authorities. For this purpose a meeting is scheduled for July, in which the UNDP will also participate.

1.11 Initiate subsequent cycles of evaluation and action plan activities.

This activity was not programmed for this quarter.

1.12 Facilitate Discussion Forums

Better relationships and linkages were built between communities and local authorities during the Dialogue Forum on Violence Prevention conducted on May 6th. The purpose of the Forum was to discuss the major social issues on citizen security that the municipality is facing, and to offer contributions that civil society and the local government can provide to solve major social problems. As a result of the forum, the four CRCs from Choluteca will build an agenda that continues to focus their efforts on identifying social development actions that can be supported from within the communities. In attendance at the event were 50 participants, of which 20 were community members and 30 were municipal officials drawn from human rights offices, prosecutors, local police, firefighters, and the Honduran Institute for Children and Families (INHFA).

Objective 2. Improve municipal and community capacity to provide efficient crime and violence prevention services

2.1. Evaluate the training needs and provide assistance for capacity building of municipal government officials

On May 15th, three representatives from the Municipal Government of Tela, along with 22 members of the CRCs from Tela were trained by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) on the use of basic tools for Environmental Impact Assessments. The information provided during the training will help both communities and local governments to apply basic tools to implement assessment techniques for determining the status of the environment, and the impact of critical activities driven on community infrastructure projects. The training also provided a broader vision on the environmental parameters to be taken into account, and the roles of communities and local government in achieving more efficient environmental management. USAID Specialists Joe Torres and Peter Hearn shared important information and tools on how to identify, avoid, mitigate and enhance outcomes for communities by applying the most effective processes across the life cycle of community infrastructure projects. The participants from the local government included the Manager of the Municipal Environmental Unit José Cano, Municipal Technical Unit Technician Mauricio Dueñas, and the Chief of Municipal Projects, Alex Errazuriz.

2.2 Increase government support for public participation in policy making.

A total of 50 members from the Youth Networks of Tegucigalpa have participated in the design process of the policy proposal *Local Economic Policy for Youth Development*. The policy proposal aims to improve economic conditions and social development of youth living in the communities from the Central District. The policy seeks to promote a youth entrepreneurship program, enhance entrepreneurial skills among the youth population, create job opportunities, generate income to improve the living

conditions of the youth, and establish local alternative funding mechanisms for youth-led business initiatives.

The process of policy-making and advocacy is being supported by METAS and IMPACTOS through partner CSO CDH, both USAID funded programs. *(Please refer to Annex E1)*

Most recently, this quarter CDH met with the Municipal Mayor from Tegucigalpa, Mr. Nasry Asfura, to present a policy proposal and to have a dialogue on the benefits to be derived from its future adoption. The proposal was well received by the Mayor, who has agreed to schedule a new meeting in which Youth Network Members will be afforded the opportunity to present it to the Municipal Corporation, the Municipal Public Safety Commission and the Municipal Commission for Children, Youth and Family. Partner CSO CDH also shared the proposal with the National Congress representative Jorge Cálix who showed his support, and agreed to share the policy proposal with members of Congress in order to identify funds for policy implementation.

In the meantime, young leaders are developing advocacy actions seeking policy approval from the Municipal Corporation of the Central District. With the support of IMPACTOS, a meeting was held on June 27th with officials from the *Office of the First Lady at the Presidential House* where Young Leaders from the Youth Networks presented the objectives of the proposed policy. Young leaders demonstrated their commitment and empowerment as responsible citizens given tools to contribute to youth development.

Young leaders expressed their hope that the government will support them in laying the foundation for generating more employment opportunities for the youth, so that they drop the idea of migrating to other countries to look for those opportunities. The Manager of the Office of the First Lady, Mrs. Danné Chávez, expressed her willingness to support the Youth Networks and CDH to finally obtain policy approval at the municipal level. The young community leaders and CDH will continue implementing their advocacy plan to obtain progress on this matter. *(Please refer to Annex E2)*

Youth have been empowered in the policy formulation and advocacy processes in part through participation in activities with CSO partner CDH in the area of public policy at the municipal level. *Please refer to Annex E3 and E4)*

On May 29, a *Memorandum of Understanding* was signed between the CRCs and the Municipal Government of Tela to coordinate and consolidate efforts on citizen security, coexistence, and violence prevention. The Mayor of Tela, Mario Fuentes, committed to supporting the communities in achieving their goals and called upon the community leaders to continue working to improve their communities in order to reduce crime and prevent violence. This represents important progress in the recognition of CRCs by the municipal authorities, and an important step toward building partnerships between civil society and government in the creation of initiatives and policies with the participation of the communities. *(Refer to Annex F)*

2.3 Provide grants for political advocacy

A Municipal Advocacy Grant (MAG) award process, subject to USAID concurrence, is expected to be carried out under the newly established umbrella grant mechanism⁸. The grant approval process will start

⁸ Grant mechanism to provide different kinds of CAP grants (ISCPG, CRG y MAG) under a same grant agreement, by which it is expected to streamline and improve execution and administration of grant resources.

once feedback is received from USAID regarding the approval of the *Request for Application (RFA)* document, and the recent modification proposal sent by Counterpart International.

2.4. Support public information campaigns

CESAL's campaign activities are aimed at raising awareness among community members on how their active participation can prevent violence, as well as promote peaceful coexistence. Actions are not only being developed within the communities, but have now reached the stage of being carried out by community members themselves. This means that youth and adults who have been involved in these processes are able to replicate the activities in other communities.

During this quarter, CESAL was able to reach a total of 5,470 children, youth, men and women through a series of activities that include movie forums, painting of murals, testimonies, assembly of pencil cases, and the delivery of the "Dove for Peace" giant structure. (*Please refer to Annex G*).

Activities such as movie forums with positive messages for youth have provided a healthy distraction for community members.⁹ In addition, activities involving youth expression of local issues through mural painting, not only provided color and beauty to the community, but allowed the CRCs and Youth Networks to express their solidarity with the positive side of each community.

If the purpose of Art is to evoke thought and reaction, the placement of family wooden figures of **"Familias por la Comunidad"** was both controversial and successful. **The project purpose was to generate reflection and community dialogue on concepts of family in the community.** Some of the figures were stolen, painted, broken, and/or thrown into a river (although all were eventually retrieved). Community discussion circles subsequently held explored the various, and sometimes disturbing, actions taken by unknown individuals towards the wooden figures. Community members arrived at various judgments and conclusions about what happened, and what it meant in terms of the community psyche. Among the popular analyses put forward by the community members, were, variously, that: the unseemly reaction to the figures was a transference of violent behaviors from men or boys in the communities, representing behaviors of men violent towards their female partners and children; boys who live in violent environments are more likely to become aggressors when they grow up and have their own families; girls who witness their mothers act submissively toward physical and verbal abuse from their partners grow up to engage in similar behavior. All concluded that communities, and especially women, must speak up if they, or their children, are victims of domestic violence. In addition, community participants emphasized that the government must assure that women who seek help will in fact receive it. The project, which used "family wooden figures" catalyzed community members to reflect on and identify different types of violence found within the own community. It also offered a focal point for communal meditation on how to prevent the different types of violence manifest in daily life.

The production of pencil cases involved the participation of members from the youth networks in target municipalities. Each pencil case has a small descriptive summary of each community, important facts,

⁹ Most of the people Impactos works with at a community level have never been to a movie theatre before. The intention of this activity is to provide children, youth and adults an enjoyable distraction with a positive message. The movie presented at the Forums was "Nosotros los Nobles" (We the Nobles)– which delivers a positive message about family union, friendship and hard work. At the end of each film projection, the community members discussed, with CESAL, whether they liked the movie or not, as well as the positive messages gleaned from watching the movie.

and a calendar. These communication materials have been delivered in schools, police stations, hospitals, NGOs, supermarkets, banks and city halls. *(Photos of the project are provided in Annex G)*

The first “Dove of Peace” was delivered to the Municipality of Choloma. The giant wooden structure (2mts. x 3mts.) was painted and decorated by community members, and delivered to municipal authorities as an example of their teamwork and motivation to work together for the sake of their municipality. Most important of all, the dove represents the citizens’ call for peace in their communities. The activity took place in the Municipal Library with the participation of the vice-mayor Mayra Alfaro.

Objective 3. Expand opportunities for community led initiatives

3.1 Provide Community Revitalization Grants (CRGs)

IMPACTOS has sought to respond to urgent needs expressed by community leaders by providing Community Revitalization Grants to local CSO partners for activities that affect the quality of life and the realities of violence within communities. Access to employment opportunities remains one of the most frequent demands. Among community revitalization projects, another common thread is an emphasis on educational development to prevent violence among young men and women. In this regard, CRC members asked for CAP’s support through community revitalization grants to help boost both the economic and personal development of young members of target communities, drawn from low-income families who are not able to access formal education. Educational and vocational training activities provided by IMPACTOS represents a valuable and what locals describe as a “once in a lifetime” opportunity for beneficiaries to access educational processes for which they otherwise would not have had access. Especially for young people, it also allows their involvement in activities fostering their personal development, while influencing them to stay away from illegal activities or activities that generate violence.

IMPACTOS promotes micro-entrepreneurial development to generate income and economic revitalization of communities, especially with women participants. The initiative mitigates risk factors of deficient education and marketable skills that result in labor exclusion, while at the same time promotes positive values within community members for local cultures of peace.

The project has sought to address the most pressing needs expressed by community leaders, one of which is the lack of the ability to access to employment opportunities. Responding to this need, an employment guidance and job counseling workshop was conducted for 80 young community members from low-income families in the municipality of Tela, with the purpose of developing their skills in job search processes. The values of punctuality, responsibility, self-esteem, and actions to identify and apply to employment opportunities were highlighted, among other subjects addressed during the activity.

Around 398 young people from communities lacking educational opportunities have been awarded scholarships through CRG grants in formal and informal educational programs, such as EDUCATODOS. These have included access to technical and vocational trainings to help students improve their access to labor opportunities. Among the different areas of vocational trainings provided are jewelry making, manufacturing for the home, handicrafts, haircutting and beauty, baking and pastries, computer training, metallic structures, refrigeration, mechanics, among others.

On May 31st, 174 young men and women from the communities of Asentamientos Humanos, Sinaí, 6 de Mayo and Cristo Viene in the San Pedro Sula municipality received graduation diplomas for participating in vocational training in specialized areas of electrician work, beauty and barber, baking and pastry. Forty seven (47) students who stood out for their excellent performance were provided with practice tools

and basic equipment that will help them use their newly acquired skills to gain employment. These included beauty kits, barber equipment and cooking utensils to prepare breads and pastries.

Business-Planning training was delivered to a total of 59 men and women from Choloma who had previously received vocational training, in order to mitigate risk factors associated with a lack of formal education and corresponding vulnerability to labor exclusion. Training activities in areas such as jewelry making, manufacturing for the home, handicrafts, and training on cooking and sewing not only developed the skills of community participants, but also encouraged them to evaluate their own business opportunities as a means of developing sources of income. A total of 21 business plans were prepared by the participants (five from Éxitos de Anach, ten from López Arellanos, six from Care), of which 14 were selected to receive in-kind seed funding (valued between USD 150 and USD 450). Beneficiaries from the in-kind seed funding were comprised of 26 men and women engaged in the sale of products and services. The Mayor of Choloma participated in the ceremony to deliver the seed funding, expressing his support for the CAP Project and his willingness to support micro-entrepreneurial initiatives as a means of community development.

As a contribution to providing livelihood alternatives to populations vulnerable to violence, CAP has assisted another group of 75 people (56 youth and 19 adults) from target communities in Choloma with craft workshops for social events (event decoration services) as well as jewelry making. These trainings, which were proposed by the CRCs to help low-income families, develop community members' talents and skills, help generate income for their families and promote micro entrepreneurial development. Among the small business proposals presented by the beneficiaries in their business plans include production and commercialization of tortillas, processed snacks, bakery, and jewelry, clothing and household linen, among others. Community values and a culture of peace are also promoted through the educational process.

CRCs from four communities in San Pedro Sula (Bordo Gavión, San Vicente de Paúl, R.L. Callejas, and J.R. González) have promoted vocational training programs as a means of preventing violence and contributing to the development of a productive society. As a result of this community initiative, in May a total of 90 underprivileged young men and women started receiving vocational training in the areas of beauty, computer skills, metallic structures, refrigeration, and mechanics for *maquilas*, provided by the Technical Institute Honduras-Korea. The project offers beneficiaries education, transportation and uniform expenses so that they can attend the 240-hour courses. CRC members have actively participated in communication with the Institute to develop actions to benefit youth with vocational trainings, selection processes of beneficiaries, and follow-up on the performance of the scholarship recipients.

Spaces for Social Interaction, such as community fairs, were developed to build community bonds and to regain collective values, as well as to promote healthy recreation, family time, and positive relationships between youth and adults. Seventy-seven neighbors (49 female and 28 male – of which 55 were youth) participated in the community fair of traditional games (yo-yo, marbles, wooden horses, etc.). The fair was organized by CRC members from the community Bordo Gavión with the support of CSO partner CASM, using the activities of the fair as an opportunity to improve relationships among community members, promote peaceful coexistence and prevent violence. These activities are recognized by community members as a means of improving community social environments and developing better relationships between neighbors, between youth and adults, and between parents and their children. The fair provides entertainment to low-income families who have few options for healthy recreation and social exchange. Through this type of activity, communities acquire common experiences, memories, and social ties, as well as reinforce positive cultural values.

On June 7th, a Community Fair called "Love and Life" was held at the Central Park in the municipality of Tela by the CRCs with the technical assistance from CSO partner COSOCITELA and with support from the Mayor's Office. About 30 members of the Youth Networks (YNs) and five CRC representatives installed stands in the Tela Central Park and provided information on prevention of violence to 179 people. The project and the work that CRCs and YNs developed and implemented for the Fair is one manifestation of the role of CAP partners in helping communities organize and execute culture-affirming messages favoring prevention of violence and the upholding of positive peaceful values. *(Refer to Annex H)*

To begin the implementation of the small infrastructure projects in the communities of Triunfo de la Cruz, Tornabé, and Grant in the Municipality of Tela, the CRCs have signed a Cost-Share Commitment Letter to develop these projects. *(Please refer to Annex I)*

3.2 Seek additional financing to support Community Revitalization Projects

On April 9th, an event was held with local business representatives and Youth Networks (YNs) with the objective of seeking and obtaining support from the private sector so that young people would have more access to opportunities for social development, and also to present plans and actions undertaken by the YNs. The event was attended by 17 special guests and 49 YN members. As a result of the event, community leaders from the CRCs and Youth Networks (YNs) united with CIPE to seek and obtain support from the private sector to provide young people with access to professional preparation training activities. A Sponsorship Agreement between CIPE and the Patricia Vocational Institute was signed, benefiting 8 young men and women of limited resources. Four received free training lessons in computers, and the other four in cooking. The Institute will also provide a free short course in technical areas for 80 beneficiaries, and a 50% discount in the courses for the Program's beneficiaries. *(Please refer to Annex J)*

The process called "Campaign for Community Projects Fund Raising" was started with the support of community directorates of the four target communities in Santa Rosa de Copan, starting with the community Chorrerón as a pilot experience. This campaign seeks to obtain support from different sources to finance community-led initiatives.

Three meetings have been held to move forward with the campaign, with the following achievements:

- A Funds Management Committee was created, consisting of the president of the board of el Chorrerón, the president of the CRC and Coordinator of the Youth Network of el Chorrerón, and one representative each from ADELSAR, IMPACTOS, and the local government.
- Creation of a roadmap of the fund management process including: (1) Establishment of the Committee, (2) Prioritization of projects for which funds will be managed, (3) Preparation of the project "folders," (4) Mapping of at least 150 private companies in the area, (5) Preparation of the schedule of visits,, (6) Conducting visits, (7) Ensuring transparent management of funds via ADELSAR, (8) Ensuring local support and access to municipal funds.

As CAP prepares to graduate the Santa Rosa Copan area from program grant support, and invest remaining available program resources to communities of greater need, the municipality of Santa Rosa de Copan has shown important signs of being able to sustain project momentum without future Impactos grant support. The Municipality has offered to match the contributions of the mayoral funds to the funds raised by the fund management process, as well as to donate significant resources in the target communities for infrastructure projects, such as sports courts and community centers. Direct technical assistance from Impactos staff is still envisioned next quarter to accompany the municipality and

ADELSAR in a number of self-identified and community resourced and sustained initiatives to follow without Impactos program grant support.

3.3 Develop Capacities of the Government and CSOs in the Processes of Providing Grants

This activity was not programmed for this quarter.

3.4 Strengthen Youth Networks (YNs)

The capacities of 36 Youth Networks are being strengthened in their leadership as proactive community based organizations (CBOs) able to foster young citizen participation in the development and promotion of violence prevention initiatives. As a result, young community leaders are developing actions prioritized and proposed by them, with the support of CSO partners as well as technical assistance and financial support provided by CAP.

On April 9th, young leaders from four networks in Choluteca shared their plans with representatives from the local government and the private sector. These actions encourage both community leaders and local authorities to build and implement joint and participatory strategies benefiting their municipalities. The regional director of the National Institute for Vocational Training (INFOP - Spanish acronym) offered to reinforce knowledge gained by 40 young trainees in vocational project activities, and to provide half scholarships to eight young community members. Among the activities included in the plans are: prevention of school violence/bullying; prevention of teen pregnancy; prevention of drug and alcohol abuse; improvement of employment and educational opportunities; improvement and beautification of their communities, as well as informing and educating community members on moral values.

As a method of promoting peaceful coexistence and preventing violence, on April 4th, the Youth Networks of the communities Callejas, San Vicente de Paul, Bordo Gavión and R. Gonzáles installed an information booth in every community, positioning the booths in strategic places where people tend to gather. The messaging used promotes community unity and violence prevention. As a way of disseminating positive messages and encouraging youth to join the networks, organizers engaged youth participants in games and activities, and awarded prizes to winners such as: backpacks, bracelets, thermos flasks, and t-shirts (*Please refer to Annex K*). The awareness activity reached a total of 182 people (85 men and 88 women), with the support of at least 30 YN members. The involvement of YN members has helped other young neighbors to focus attention on positive activities, providing alternatives to associating with antisocial groups that have negative influences. The high level of motivation and youth involvement has come to encourage the participation of both adult and young people to participate in project activities to prevent violence and promote community integration.

As an indication of greater empowerment among YNs from Santa Rosa de Copán in their role as *Social Agents of Change*, member youth have been acting as volunteers in the development of activities in close coordination with organizations working in social development and municipal institutions (including municipal government authorities).

Sixty members of the Youth Networks joined Santa Rosa's Municipal Office, the Armed Forces of Honduras, the Ministry of Health, local media and organizations such as The Jicatuño Foundation, World Vision and Red Cross in the development of the *Campaign against Dengue*, conducted in early June. The Youth Networks shared the campaign message in four schools, reaching approximately 1,800 boys and girls.

Youth Networks conducted actions on their own initiative to benefit society. The YNs organized and conducted a cultural event to raise funds to benefit Prison Pastoral Care of Santa Rosa de Copan, with the accompaniment of ADELSAR and IMPACTOS. Young volunteers performed theatrical presentations¹⁰, Arabic dances, and rap and break-dance presentations. The event took place on June 6th, 190 people attended the fundraising event that was held in partnership with the Casa Hogar Foundation of Santa Rosa de Copan, which is a municipal institution dedicated to protecting women and children from violent families. A total of L.4,750.00 was raised during the event.

The project promotes the establishment of partnerships between YN members and academic institutions in the municipality of Santa Rosa de Copan. On June 10th, CAP staff conducted a workshop on violence prevention and youth, with the participation of 26 young high school students from the College Álvaro Contreras. The students learned about the Youth Networks, the municipal youth policy proposal developed with project support, and other subjects related to violence prevention.

Youth networks have improved their organizational and working skills and shared their knowledge with other community members so that they can become **responsible and committed citizens** through positive thinking, respect and tolerance.

With the support of the CRC members, young leaders achieved coordinated actions with four local schools to conduct youth/school violence prevention workshops.

88 members of the Youth Networks in Choluteca were trained to teach others (“ToT”) on the prevention of Bullying. Nine workshops¹¹ were conducted by YN members in which 644 students were trained to develop social skills for responsible citizenship. The message of the workshops was to avoid bullying and to improve relationships between students.

Messages transmitted contribute to strengthened relations between students and teachers, as well as between students themselves in schools to reduce levels of aggression.

On April 4th, a total of 39 young people from the community San Vicente de Paul in San Pedro Sula participated in the workshop using the model “Challenge of Envisioning My Life” (Desafío Soñar mi Vida). The activity was developed by YN members applying the peer strategy, with young people that attend the Outreach Center of the community participating. This model guides young people to live according to principles, goals and dreams, and to generate a commitment to self-improvement based on values. In addition, 65 YN members from San Vicente de Paul and R. L. Callejas communities received training in self-esteem and leadership. This type of workshop contributes to the organizational development of the Youth Networks, considering that in order to have an effective leadership, adequate levels of self-esteem must first be developed.

Young community members from the San Miguel sector are motivated to prevent violence in their communities by being taught about ways in which they can participate. There is a gradual resurgence of interest to participate and develop volunteerism in their communities. After a period of inactivity after the completion of the projects implemented by CIPRODEH, CSO partner CDH resumed actions and during

¹⁰ The theatrical performances were performed by the youth theater groups that were created and trained through community revitalization projects implemented in year 2013.

¹¹ Workshops took place on May 8 (1), May 14 (2), May 15 (2), May 19(2), May 21 (2).

early May, managed to move forward in obtaining the participation of young community members in project activities.

Forty-two young community members from the San Miguel Sector in Tegucigalpa received a Workshop on Citizen Participation and Advocacy. Young participants developed basic knowledge on these subjects and deepened their involvement in violence prevention within their community.

Thirty-five Youth Network members from the community La Travesía participated in the Workshop on planning and project formulation. A Foosball Day was held afterwards to promote social coexistence.

The project promotes partnerships between YN members and academic institutions. On June 10th, CAP staff conducted a workshop in which 26 young high school students from the College Álvaro Contreras in Santa Rosa de Copán learned about the Youth Networks, the municipal youth policy proposal that was developed with project support, and other issues related to the prevention of violence.

Additional Activities

During the 171st City Anniversary, the local authorities in Santa Rosa de Copán declared April 12th as the *Day for Violence Prevention and Peaceful Coexistence*. This is a result of the awareness process at a municipal level conducted by the IMPACTOS program and the linkages developed between local government, the Youth Networks and the CRCs. During this commemorative date, community leaders from target communities raised awareness among the population on the importance of peaceful coexistence for municipal development, and also reported the actions undertaken by the Youth Networks and Community Revitalization Committees, to prevent violence and benefit their communities.



IV. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Closure of grants

The Program began the closure process and performance evaluation of grants awarded to CSO partners in the second semester of 2013. The process included a review and verification of the achievements, performance indicators and budget implementation. Proper documentation of means of verification and corresponding registration in the MIS was reviewed, considering additional final documentation to be included in the final reports. This process is in progress as it is part of the performance evaluation that each organization must complete before formally closing each grant.

During this quarter, the CAP Project has provided the nine partner CSOs with support in the implementation of work plans, compliance with indicators and closure of grant activities.

M&E visits for *grant closures* have taken place in Tegucigalpa, Choluteca, La Ceiba, Tela, Choloma and San Pedro Sula. Joint visits with the CSO Coordinator have been made to the following partner CSOs:

CSO	Grants	Date of Closure – On Site Verification
CDH	ISCPG & YNSG	May 26
CIPE	ISCPG & YNSG	June 25
CEPROSAF	ISCPG, YNSG & CRG	June 10-11
COSOCITELA	YNSG	June 12
CASM	ISCPG & YNSG	July 1
CI	ISCPG, YNSG & CRG	July 2
FUNADEH	CRG	July 3

CSOs are still experiencing problems in reporting *quality information*, even though they have been achieving their goals regarding number of beneficiaries, workshops and implementation of plans. These problems have been addressed through an evaluation tool at the moment of closure. However, CSOs are expected to deliver quality information on their own on a monthly basis. A different approach will be implemented during the upcoming grant cycle in order to comply with USAID standards.

Technical M&E Assistance

The Program met with CSOs to review the means of verification of the achieved indicators in their projects, as well as the registration of supporting documentation of all their activities in the MIS. The Program prepared detailed reports for each of the CSO implementing partners containing feedback, different findings/observations and achievements. Recommendations were provided on priority activities needed to consistently meet report requirements, and the appropriate documentation of means of verification.

Base Line

The baseline analysis will be finished during the period July-August 2014.

Knowledge Management System (KMS)

Assistance has been provided to CSOs regarding upload of means of verification to the KM Portal. All CSOs who have gone through the closure process of 14 grants have uploaded complete information to the KM Portal.

For the upcoming grant cycle, CSOs will receive new instructions on uploading information per indicator, as well as on completing an Excel Chart to avoid confusion in the quality of information being uploaded to the system.

On site Visits & Technical Assistance to CSOs

On site visits and technical assistance to CSOs include but are not limited to the following:

CSO	ACTIVITY	DATE
CI	Technical assistance in the development of TORs for the CRC's Situational Analysis Consultancy (<i>Please refer to Annex L</i>)	May 2
	Assistance with US Ambassador's visit to the Neal Center facilities	June 5
COSOCITELA	Technical assistance on Environmental Regulations training (USAID-216)	May 15
	Technical Assistance and follow-up to the signing of MOU between CRCs and the Municipality of Tela	May 29
	Assistance with USAID's visit to communities in Tela	June 6
CASM	Assistance with USAID's visit to communities in Choloma	June 4
CESAL	Meeting to make adjustments to the Table of Indicators	May 29
	Meeting to revise Campaign Material and Budget Modifications	June 18
ADELSAR	Technical assistance for grant closure. Follow-up on Advocacy processes within the Municipality of Santa Rosa de Copán regarding the Comprehensive Citizen Security Commission (CSCI- Acronym in Spanish)	April – May – June

Technical Assistance and Monitoring on Financial Performance

During this reporting period, the program continued to monitor ten open grants, and was able to administratively close another 30 grants.

The grants team recorded and reviewed 44 financial reports and 67 cost share reports for the quarter. Financial support assistance and oversight provided by the team included 24 visits to nine CSOs, and four management support visits to program CSOs, to analyze and evaluate the programmatic and financial performance of 10 grants.

V. ACHIEVEMENTS

CAP							
Objective One: To improve multi-sectoral capacity to provide coordinated and comprehensive responses to changing security needs.							
No.	PMP Indicators	Targets Year 4 (a)	Achieved Year 4 (b)	Target Life of Project	Achieved Life of Project	Status (a vs. b)	Narrative
Output 1.1	No. of civil society organizations receiving USG assistance in security sector oversight and advocacy	9	9	9	9	Met	The CSOs receiving USG assistance are: CASM, CDH, Children International, CIPRODEH, FUNADEH, ADELSAR, CEPROSAF, CIPE, and COSOCITELA
Outcome 1.1	Number of community plans implemented	11	4	36	32	Met	Community strategic Action Plans are being implemented through Community Revitalization Grants.
Output 1.2	Number of communities assisted in crime prevention with USG support	36	36	36	36	Met	Working in 36 communities in 7 municipalities through CSO partners
Outcome 1.2	Number of well-functioning, representative Community Security Committees	7	36	36	36	Exceeded	36 CRCs organized, strengthened and functioning in all target communities from, Tegucigalpa (8), San Pedro Sula (8), Choloma (4), Choluteca (4), La Ceiba (4), Santa Rosa de Copán (4), and Tela.

Outcome 1.3	Percent of training participants who demonstrate knowledge and skills acquired through the training program	60%	60%	60%	60%	Met	In the different training provided by the CSO partners, participants reached the required percentage in knowledge and skills acquired.
Output 1.3	Number of communities with crime and security “Asset Assessments completed”	0	0	36	36	Met	Community Assessments completed in the 36 target communities.
Objective Two: To improve municipal capacity to provide effective crime prevention services							
Output 2.1	Number of government officials undergoing USG assisted security sector governance training	140	181	340	360	Exceeded	Subjects include Citizen Security Policy, violence prevention, gender violence governance and transparency.
Outcome 2.2	Number of municipalities strengthened by USG programs	7	7	7	7	Met	Municipalities of Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula, Choloma, Choluteca, La Ceiba, and Tela.
Outcome 2.3	Number of people reached by crime prevention public information campaigns	7,200	6,368	7,200	6,446	Ongoing	Campaign activities are being carried out in target communities in the municipalities of Tegucigalpa, Tela, Choloma and Santa Rosa de Copán.
Objective Three: To expand opportunities for community led initiatives							
Output 3.1	Number of people served by locally led security initiatives funded by the Program	0	2,794	3,600	5,744	Exceeded	Impactos is financing locally led security initiatives in 32 communities through the community revitalization projects in six municipalities (Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula, Choloma, Santa Rosa de Copan, Choluteca, Tela y La Ceiba)

VI. LIMITATIONS WITH REGARD TO GENDER ASPECTS

The CAP project has approached *The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women* (UN Women) in Honduras to schedule a workshop for both CAP and CPRG teams during the month of August 2014. It is expected that this training will be replicated to CSOs as part of the technical assistance provided by the IMPACTOS Program.

The level of participation among women continues to be greater than among men. Women have been actively participating in vocational trainings and developing their own microenterprises in target municipalities.

It is worth mentioning that even though CSOs lack a guiding IMPACTOS gender document, they have been addressing the issue during workshops and implementation of activities at a community level. Such is the case of partner CSO CESAL which is currently addressing the issue through an Outreach Campaign, specifically under the “Familias por la Comunidad” activity (*for more information please refer to Activity 2.4*)

VII. PROGRAM PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

As a result of the review carried out on the Project’s Annual Work Plan, changes in the context have been considered, as well as the new Umbrella Grant mechanism. The question of how to optimize the use of the remaining CAP length of program (LOP) budget has also been analyzed, in order to achieve maximum program results in what has been a changing and highly dynamic environment since the program began. In this regard, adjustments and modifications have been proposed and submitted to USAID for consideration. There are certain activities that by their nature are carried out throughout the year, such as monitoring activities, report delivery, and the search for alliances to maximize the project’s interventions.

Program priorities for next quarter are:

- Evaluate CSOs’ project proposals and submit for approval (umbrella or combined grant agreement).
- Sign awards with four CSOs (umbrella or combined grant agreement).
- Finalize baseline report and facilitate meetings to share baseline findings.
- Conduct training workshops in alternative dispute resolution in coordination with UNDP.
- Conduct monthly on-site monitoring and evaluation visits.
- Conduct meetings to identify and prepare activities to develop project case studies.
- Conduct follow-up meetings to keep a record of joint coordination activities with other CARSI members.
- Provide technical assistance for the creation of the Municipal Violence Prevention Unit (UMPREV) or strengthening of local government structures working on violence prevention.
- Monitoring and follow up of municipal capacity building processes.
- Conduct meetings with Youth Networks, CRCs and CSOs to establish coordination mechanisms to implement the public outreach campaign.
- Implement the public outreach information campaign in 16 communities.
- Identify new potential sources of funding and support for community revitalization projects.



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CITIZEN PARTICIPATION FOR RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE PROGRAM (CPRG)



**3rd FY14 Quarterly Report Period:
April – June 2014**

Submitted to: USAID/Honduras

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADAAT	Development Association of the Atima sector
ALAC	Anti-Corruption Legal Assistance Center
ALD	Freedom Democracy Association
ASJ	Association for a Fairer Society
APJ	Justice and Peace Alliance
APP	Public Private Alliances
BSMP	Branding Strategy and Marketing Plan
CAI	Bioethics Committee
CAP	Community Action for Prosperity
CARITAS	Pastoral Social Caritas Honduras
CASM	Commission of Social Mennonite Actions
CDH	Human Development Center
CIPRODEH	Center for the Investigation and Promotion of Human Rights
C-LIBRE	Committee for Free Expression
CNA	National Anti-Corruption Council
COALIANZA	Commission for the Promotion of Public-Private Partnerships
CODEH	Committee for the defense of Human Rights
CONADEH	National Commissioner of Human Rights
CONASIDA	National Aids Commission
CONATEL	National Commission of Telecommunications
CPRG	Citizen Participation for Responsive Governance
CSJ	Supreme Court of Justice
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CUROC	Western Regional University Center
DAM	Municipal Audit Bureau
EROC	Regional Platform of Western Honduras
FOPRIDEH	Federation of Development Organizations of Honduras
FOROSIDA	National AIDS forum
FOSDEH	Social Forum for the External Debt of Honduras
FDsF	Foundation for Democracy without Borders
FMI	International Monetary Fund
FUSINA	National Institutional Security Force
FY	Fiscal Year
GOAL	International Humanitarian Agency
GOH	Government of Honduras
GSC	Civil Society Group
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HQ	Headquarters
IAIP	Institute for Access to Public Information
ICNL	International Center for Not-for-Profit Law
ISO	Intermediate Service Organization
INA	National Agricultural Institute
IRS	Indicator Reference Sheet
KMs	Knowledge Management System
LC	Learning Community
LLM	The Lactation League
LOP	Length of Program
LOTO	Honduran Electronic Lottery
LTAIP	Access to Public Information Law
MCPH	Technical Secretary Coordination Mechanism Honduras
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation

ME	Ministry of Education
MIS	Management Information System
MOF	Ministry of Finance
MOH	Ministry of Health
MP	Public Prosecutors Office
MSI	Management Systems International
NC	National Congress of the Republic of Honduras
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NGO-Ds	Development Non-Governmental Organizations
NGOG	National Government Oversight Grant
OBI	Open Budget Initiative
OCC	Citizen Highway Observatory
OD	Organizational Development
OGP	Open Government Partnership
PAG	Non-Profit Project Global Village
PAGAH	Open Government Action Plan for Honduras
PEFA	Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability
PICG	Public Information Campaign Grants
PIO	Public Information Official
PY	Program Year
RFA	Request for Applications
RNP	National Public Registry
RRG	Rapid Response Grant
SAMI	Comprehensive Municipal Management System
SEIP	Ministry of Interior and Population
SELCOM	Selection Committee
SETELEC	Technical Services, Legal and Economic
SOPs	Standardized Operating Procedures
SOPTRAVI	Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Housing
SDHJGD	Secretariat of Human Right, Justice, Interior and Decentralization
TI	Transparency International
TIG	Training and Implementation Grant
TOT	Training of Trainees
TRAG	Transparency, Research and Advocacy Grant
TSC	Superior Court of Auditors
URSAC	Unit for Registry and Monitoring of Civil Society Organizations
UNAH	National Honduran University
UNITEC	Central American Technological University
UE	European Union
USAID	Agency for International Development
WB	World Bank

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Citizen Participation for Responsive Governance (CPRG) program, known locally in Honduras as the Impactos Program and referred to as the “Program” in this report, is a five-year initiative funded by USAID and implemented by Counterpart International, in partnership with the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) and Management Systems International (MSI). The Impactos program consists of two independent yet very intertwined and complementary components: 1) the CPRG component, which aims to increase the transparency and accountability of public institutions through support for civil society-led initiatives, and 2) the Community Action for Prosperity (CAP) component, which aims to improve citizen and community safety by strengthening local communities' and governments' ability to prevent threats from gangs and narco-trafficking. The program's goal representing both components is framed under five programmatic objectives: (1) Improved effectiveness of civil society to advocate for transparency and accountability of public institutions; (2) Improved capacity of public institutions to address gaps in the enabling environment for transparency and accountability; (3) Improved multi-sectorial capacity to provide coordinated and comprehensive responses to changing security needs; (4) Improved municipal capacity to provide effective crime prevention services; and (5) Expanded opportunities for community led initiatives.

The Impactos approach consists of: supporting Honduran civil society in a sustained effort to increase transparency and accountability of public institutions; employing a non-partisan and non-confrontational approach toward engaging the national government; understanding and engaging existing transparency institutions; integrating public transparency and accountability activities into sector-specific development programming; and, designing and disseminating targeted and transparent program grants. It also aspires to build communities' capacity to work collaboratively with municipal authorities, the private sector, civic organizations and *patronatos* (local councils) to plan and implement activities that address the root causes of insecurity at the grassroots level, taking into consideration the unique motivations of youth and other at-risk groups.

Beyond building measures for Government accountability and transparency, Impactos believes in increasing the capacity of local civil society organizations (CSOs) to empower themselves and community partners as change agents willing and able to promote conditions for strengthened crime prevention measures and increased accountability of development plans and activities in communities and municipalities. Impactos facilitates building these new capacities through provision of training programs, small grants, and targeted Technical Assistance (TA) to CSOs that use new knowledge, learning and skills in accordance with the needs of their respective constituencies.

Grants awarded this Quarter

In order to enable local CSOs to implement Citizen Participation for Responsive Governance (CPRG) program relevant activities; this quarter, the Impactos Program did not award any new Grants in the CPRG component, as the Grants making process is currently in its SELCOM competitive stage.

Cost Share

As of June 2014 the field office has submitted cost share figures to Counterpart's home office totaling a sum of USD \$619,198.13, this cost share has been validated, approved and registered into our quick books system, representing 56% of the Program's total cost share commitment to the donor. This cost share amount is comprised of a successful cost share reporting from 18 sub partners, and with all the

agreements committed and signed to date represents 93% of the total cost share commitment to the donor of USD \$1,107,302.00.

At the end of the quarter, CPRG reported total expenditures of USD \$545,090 of which USD \$201,137.14 corresponds to grant funding, while USD \$62,637.75 is the value of grant recipient cost share.

Opportunities and Adjustments to Strategic Priorities

The Program has old and new challenges to overcome. Some of these include convincing and empowering ISOs to strengthen their strategic constructive engagement practices: between CSOs, to expand networks; with the Honduran government, to forge advisory and assistance partnerships resulting in effective governance reform; and with donors, to strengthen the quality and quantity of cooperation assistance. There is little doubt the diverse and multi-sector Honduran civic advocacy agendas require, today more than ever, effective multi-stakeholder partnerships and network building strategies, as a complement to CSOs understanding and being able to effectively manage their roles and functions.

TIG grants will be renewed for selected CSOs this next quarter; and Impactos will seek opportunities to renew and renovate relations with those ISOs, or partner CSOs, expressing commitment to non-partisan strategic constructive engagement.

In addition to the above, the Learning Community -- as a proactive space that facilitates learning, empowering networks and providing tools and tactics for achievement of CPRG objectives -- will be an increasingly important resource for improving CSOs' capacities and competencies in what remains a dynamic implementation environment.

II. POLITICAL CONTEXT

Issues addressed in this April-June 2014 Quarterly Report are based on factors and events that have had an effect on the country's social, economic and political environment in the areas of public finance, security and transparency, which are CPRG's fields of action.

On specific economic matters, the country was once again subject to evaluation missions conducted by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which analyzed credit, fiscal and monetary policies as well as government actions aimed to reach fiscal sustainability. IMF representatives met in Tegucigalpa with government authorities, private sector representatives and other organizations that study the country's finances. This evaluation is part of an initial process precedent to signature of a new economic agreement between the IMF and the Honduran Government (GOH). Currently, the IMF recommends the government, among other measures, reduce the fiscal deficit and take measures to increase economic growth¹.

On June 13, the IMF's Executive Board published an official press release with results of the evaluation on "Honduras' fiscal sustainability within the framework of Article IV of IMF's Agreement."² It should be noted that Article IV of IMF's Agreement has a provision for mandatory acceptance of IMF's compliance supervision. Based on the press release, Honduras Government officials confirmed that they have IMF's agreement to sign a new loan agreement between Honduras and the IMF, expected to be signed in August.³

May 7 2014 marked the end of the first 100 days of President Juan Orlando Hernández' government administration. The President presented a number of actions that have been carried out, outlining his main achievements which focused primarily in areas of security and fiscal policy to restore the economy.

--Deterrence of National and Transnational Criminal Activity

On security matters, government officials cited statistics showing a decrease in kidnappings and extortion. The rate of homicides was reported to have been reduced and a number of dangerous organized criminal gangs disbanded. The reported reductions in criminality were attributed to implementation of a series of measures, including law enforcement special operations by the Tigres forces⁴, creation of a National Interagency Security Task Force (FUSINA – a multiagency coordinating entity supervising the work of various justice and security operators), call-blocking mobile phones within the country's 24 jails, and approval of the Law for the Protection of Air Spaces, which authorizes the Honduran Air Force to shoot down unidentified planes that failed to file flight plans and are suspected of drug trafficking in the national territory; the authority to shoot being granted only after exhausting a series of protocol measures that include radio warnings, visual signals to land, and other measures⁵.

¹ <http://proceso.hn/2014/04/08/Econom%C3%ADa/Gobierno.confiado.en/84754.html>

² <http://www.imf.org/external/spanish/np/sec/pr/2014/pr14282s.htm>

³ <http://www.laprensa.hn/inicio/718164-96/fondo-monetario-da-visto-bueno-para-negociar-acuerdo-con-honduras>

⁴ Investigation and special response security teams trained and by Colombian Jungle School and the 7th Groups of USA Special Forces, with the purpose of strengthening tactical law enforcement capability, and taking the fight frontally to transnational organized group.

⁵ <http://www.tiempo.hn/editorial/noticias/los-100-dias-de-juan-orlando-hernandez>

On May 8, following judicial due process hearing and appeal procedures, for the first time Honduras approved extradition of a Honduran citizen (alleged drug lord Mr. Carlos Arnoldo Lobo) to the United States of America. Upon extradition, the President of the Republic sent a very clear message on his Government's "willingness to fight organized crime, drug trafficking and crime in general in a frontal manner."⁶ The diverse security and crime fighting measures and reduction in impunity of organized crime leaders is expected to have a dissuasive effect on international drug traffickers by making Honduran territory less attractive as a sanctuary for drug transshipment or as a base of operations. However, as space for criminal enterprise is reduced, what remaining territory exists for trafficking will be hotly contested by gangs, as has been seen. Levels of violence related to internecine gang warfare appear to have indeed increased over the past few months, including in Impactos communities.

During May, the Institute of Access to Public Information (IAIP) issued the last report on compliance to the Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information (LTAIP). IAIP evaluated 102 public institutions, which according to the Law are required to publish information on their management. According to this report, 52 government institutions showed little or no interest to comply with transparency responsibilities, receiving evaluation ratings of "poor" or "deficient in transparency."⁷ The publication of information is the main legal mechanism for public administration to be accountable to the citizenry.

- Open Government Initiatives – widening gaps between dialogue and implementation

The Government's Strategic Plan for development contains 14 commitments and goals subject to a management-by-results approach for the period 2014-2018. Among the goals included are transparency, accountability, the promotion of a culture of ethics and respect for the law. A declaration of these commitments, developed in concert with Impactos partners, was included in the design of the 2014-2016 2nd Plan of Action for Open Government in Honduras (PAGAH).

The design of the 2014-2016 PAGAH was conducted by the Presidential Office of Transparency and Reform of the State, an administrative entity of the Presidency of the Republic, under the Government's General Coordination Secretariat. The process for the design of the PAGAH entailed sessions to sensitize stakeholders through consultations and validation carried out in 5 country regions⁸ during March and June. This process included participation of about 450 people, representing public institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector.

The quarter ended with the official launching of the 2014-2016 2nd Plan of Action for Open Government in Honduras (PAGAH), under the authority of the President of the Republic, with the purpose of socializing commitments the country will undertake within the framework of the



⁶ <http://www.elheraldo.hn/alfrente/707265-209/honduras-extradita-a-narcotraficante-el-negro-lobo-a-estados-unidos>

⁷ <http://www.laprensa.hn/lasultimas24/712023-98/honduras-aplazadas-en-transparencia-52-instituciones-estatales>

⁸ Choluteca, Tegucigalpa, La Ceiba, San Pedro Sula, Santa Rosa de Copán

Open Government Initiative during a two year period.

III. ANALYSIS

Honduras continues to face major challenges in the spheres of transparency, accountability and the fight against corruption. President Juan Orlando Hernández's government has expressed its wish to act upon transparency and good governance through actions such as; the signing of a MOU with Transparency International (TI) and its Honduran associate partner office *Asociación para una Sociedad Más Justa* (ASJ); the creation of 5 dialogue and consensus groups to operationalize the "Pact for Honduras⁹," with the purpose of acting in concert, while engaged with the country's different sectors on the diverse subjects that comprise the various action elements found within the government's program. Due to the scandalous acts of corruption found within major Honduran public institutions, and responding to the imperatives of the new Plan under the Open Government initiative, outside investigation and audit interventions of public institutions by special government and civil society joint task forces have continued this quarter.¹⁰

Although these initiatives have projected a feeling of increasing openness to citizen participation, they are viewed with some reservation by many in the civil society sector, who have expressed doubts in regard to their real impact on impunity. To date, no tangible results combatting corruption impunity have been registered, and there is little trust among many that government anti-corruption dialogue will result in much more than political posturing. Until corruption charges are brought by the national prosecutor's office against culpable officials and special interests across the political spectrum, i.e. are investigated, indicted, sentenced by a judge, and jailed – the doubts and ample doses of cynicism on the seriousness of the GOH anti-corruption campaign will remain.

In what appears to be a backsliding on commitment to citizen access to public information and transparency, the government is facing a backlash on the Law for Classification of Public Documents Related to National Security and Defense, also known as the "Law of Public Secrets"¹¹. Set in force by President Hernández' government, this Law is widely interpreted by knowledgeable observers to weaken the scope and operations of the Law of Transparency and of the Institute of Access to Public Information, and also limits citizen participation in social oversight actions. Under the rubric of "protecting national security," the National Defense and Security Council have the power to classify any information that could produce undesirable "institutional effects" detrimental to policies or operation of public institutions.¹²

Héctor Longino Becerra, representing the Regional Alliance for Freedom of Speech (*Alianza Regional por la Libre Expresión*¹³), expressed that the Law "may facilitate forms of pre-censorship that violate

⁹ Pact for Honduras, Presidential declaration aiming to promote a productive and constructive dialogue for reaching agreements to create a pathway that will allow Honduras to progress with democratic governance in the process of the country's social and economic development in the four years of the current government..

¹⁰ IHSS, INJUPEN, IP

¹¹ The Law for Classification of Public Document in force since the third month of President Juan Orlando Hernández' government.

¹² Articles 3 and 4 of the Law for Classification of Public Documents, related to National Security and Defense

¹³ <http://conexihon.info/site/noticia/libertad-de-expresi%C3%B3n/honduras-alianza-regional-preocupada-por-la-ley-para-la-clasificaci%C3%B3n>

the freedom of speech, and could turn this policy norm into a *Gag Law*, for citizens, journalists and communication media.”

Within the reform realm of citizen access to public information, there are few signs that government policy on access to information has conformed to the principles of open government. Important civil society organizations working in this arena interpret recent Government actions as implementing a new and more restrictive policy on public information access, thus creating an impression of opacity contradictory to the dialogue on Open Government. An example of this situation is found in the case of the Honduran Crime Observatory of the National Autonomous University¹⁴, which stopped processing and publishing information because the Ministry of Security has denied them statistics information on crimes in the country, this Ministry being the only source of official data. Some opine that GOH intent may be to manipulate security information to demonstrate a decrease in the rate of homicides, as a means to justify the costly and, in some quarters, controversial strategy of public safety currently being implemented. These same observers argue that the GOH decision to deny access to public sources of reliable criminality statistics information, as previously developed by the Crime Observatory, is based on GOH concern that independent information could work at cross purposes to the administration’s national and international representations of having achieved significant crime reduction.¹⁵

In addition, the justice system (Public Ministry national prosecutor’s office) has been slow to gather evidence and formulate indictments against the high-ranking government officials that have embezzled billions of Lempiras of national funds. Pundits observe that the comprehensive and well documented reports issued by the special task forces appointed by the President to investigate corruption actions have not yet been presented in Honduran courts, with the exception of a few cases. While similar corruption cases take years to wind their way through investigation, indictment, plea bargaining and hearings in US courts, there is little patience and lots of doubts in Honduras that the historical pattern of impunity of Honduran government and powerful political figures can be overcome, and that meaningful high-level prosecutions will result in convictions.

As Omar Rivera¹⁶ has pointed out, while thieves are protected with impunity in Honduras, the rest of the population suffers the consequences of corruption. Citing the plundering of the Honduran Institute of Social Security¹⁷ by public officials, politicians and businessmen over multiple administrations, there is great frustration that corrupt businesses complicit with corrupt government officials have yet to be accused or brought to trial.

- “Pact for Honduras” in Stasis

The heralded multi-stakeholder dialogue and reform mechanism anticipated under the new Honduran administration to advance national development remains suspended after initial meetings. This much-publicized intent by the GOH to convene and sustain five dialogue groups comprising the “Pact for Honduras” has not been reconvened. This government initiative was summarily suspended when a

¹⁴ <http://iudpas.org/observatorio>

¹⁵ These theories of GOH statistical data manipulation aside, it should be noted that a coordination group comprised of donor, bilateral and multilateral organizations represented in Honduras recently assessed that Honduran crime rates have been reduced, and that international drug trafficking through Honduran territory has been reduced under the Hernandez administration by about 15-17% since January, 2014

¹⁶ Omar Rivera, Coordinator of the Civil Society group; <http://chokusatsur.com/index.php/2014/04/21/omar-rivera-el-pueblo-necesita-mas-acciones-y-menos-circo/>

¹⁷ <http://www.psthonduras.org/2014/05/corruccion-en-el-ihss-un-crimen-de-lesa.html>

lack of preparation and absence of a clear work methodology suggested more preparatory time was needed. This Government dialogue initiative was not, by criteria of some civil society leaders, sufficiently representative of the full spectrum of stakeholders that can and should contribute to policy option analysis, nor did it promote articulated cooperation among diverse actors for development. Many CSO leaders expressed concern that those invited to the dialogue roundtables were primarily government-related CSOs and that those CSOs critical or demanding actions from the Government were excluded; resulting in selective citizen participation which limited the range of vision and approaches to problems that might have been considered.

This quarter, as the Impactos/CPRG component passed the mid-point of the five-year project, CPRG conducted a deliberative mid-program review process with the objective of adjusting program level of effort and resources to maximize results. Criteria for consideration placed a premium on pursuing the most promising activities, while staying within the practical limitations of the remaining LOP budget. The choices made (found within a modification request submitted to USAID on June 13 2014) were product of considerable in-depth and informed analysis, including consultations with partners, selected donors, and weeks of deliberations by the combined Honduras and HQS team in review and scenario building on the technical implications of choices, as well as impact on achievement of Agreement and PMP stipulated results. Using scenarios shared by various sectors of organized civil society, the design of the strategic focus of the new CPRG grants cycle is focused on governance, transparency and accountability in part conformed to policy and plans promoted by the current government, such as: Open Government, new model for development and public investment that favors broad participation of the private sector in the delivery of public services, Public-Private Alliances; citizen access to public information, and safeguarding of an enabling environment for CSOs' work.

Within the new grants cycle, CPRG will continue strengthening grantee organizations on the development of CSO functional tools for citizen oversight in objective areas. As a result, partner CSOs will be able to use these skills to promote fulfillment and effective implementation of public policies on transparency and the fight against corruption. Improved CSO skills to achieve both CPRG objectives, as outlined below, cut across the full range of CSO functions, including: monitoring, assessing, advocacy, public information and education, social and action agenda networking, as well as citizen social audits of government performance.

IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

The two Impactos program components, CPRG and CAP, are mutually reinforcing in terms of strengthening development policies and implementation environments, with CPRG influencing most in the National and Municipal governance arenas, and CAP at the level of Municipal and local communities. Nonetheless, each component has its own program guidelines that are self-contained based on the results framework outlined by each project's objectives and activities and according to their Work plans.

The graphic which follows on the next page summarizes CPRG's results framework and achievements for this quarterly reporting period:

Activities by Results – CPRG

Citizen Participation for Responsive Governance (CPRG) Program

Program Goal: To increase the transparency and accountability of public institutions through support for civil society-led initiatives.

Objective One: Improved effectiveness of civil society to advocate for transparency and accountability of public institutions.

Objective One Activities

- 1.1 - Rapid Assessments on Civil Society and Transparency Institutions
- 1.2 - Establish and Initiate CPRG Grant Facility
- 1.3 - Competitively Select 4 Intermediary Support Organization Partners
- 1.4 - Design and Deliver Customized Program Trainings
- 1.5 - Support the Establishment and Activities of a National Transparency Coalition and Civic Movement
- 1.6 - Award National Government Oversight Grants and Support CSO Watchdog Capacity and Activities
- 1.7 - Provide Targeted Consultations on Government Oversight and Increased Government Transparency
- 1.8 - Develop a CSO Self-Regulatory and Accountability System
- 1.9 -- Support Public Information Campaigns to Fight Corruption Apathy and Increase Public Awareness and Understanding of Existing Anti-Corruption Legislation
- 1.10 - Support Targeted Advocacy Campaigns to Improve Civil Society Operating Environment
- 1.11 - Support Non-Partisan Policy Research and Advocacy Initiatives
- 1.12 - Organize Civil Society Organization Networking, Collaboration and Coordination Events
- 1.13 - Pilot Opportunities for Youth Model
- 1.14 - Support Implementation of the Legal Framework of Human Rights at the Grassroots Level
- 1.15 - Expansion of the Legal Advisory and Anti-Corruption Center to Northern Honduras

Objective One Illustrative Results

Establishment of sustained domestic capacity for demanding and supporting good governance

More than 50 unique national government oversight, advocacy and public information campaigns completed, meeting at least 80% of their stated objectives

Increased and institutionalized oversight of Honduran government institutions by CSOs

Increased responsiveness of at least 25 government institutions based on CSO watchdog activities

Changed behavior and practice of government officials within targeted institutions based on anonymous surveying

Newly introduced transparent practices introduced in the legislature and national ministries

Support the National Youth Policy by creating advocacy campaign for transparency in local governments

Create help desks that allow citizens to access their rights under existing laws concerning transparency and accountability

3 CSOs improving youth employability opportunities through resource mobilization programs

Offer an anonymous and confidential system that allows citizens to report any action of corruption and demand transparency and accountability to government institutions

Objective Two: Improved capacity of public institutions to address gaps in the enabling environment for transparency and accountability

Objective Two Activities

- 2.1 - Conduct Ongoing Joint Transparency Challenge and Opportunity Mapping
- 2.2 - Facilitate Collaborative Partnerships and Dialogue Channels between CSOs and Public Entities
- 2.3 - Deliver Targeted and Demand-Driven Training and Technical Assistance
- 2.4 - Support Implementation of Increased Government Transparency Initiatives through Oversight and Training Grants
- 2.5 - Establish and Award Rapid Response Grants

Objective Two Illustrative Results

Increased and more effective collaboration between government and CSOs

Improved technical capacities to implement transparency initiatives by at least 25 agencies

Improved ability of public institutions to comply with legal mandates and promote governmental transparency and accountability

Increased dialogue between the GOH and CSOs at the national level

Elimination of barriers to implementation of key anticorruption laws and policies

In this third quarter of the fiscal year (FY) 2014, the Impactos Program has continued supporting initiatives of the Intermediary Service Organizations (ISOs) -- in development of action plans, and in evolving capacities required for effective public policy advocacy to strengthen public sector institutions and services, rule of law and governance. The CPRG technical team role has also included efforts to identify and open constructive channels of communication and cooperation between CSOs, key government actors and international cooperation entities.

A description of the progress made in the various activities of CPRG during the third quarter of FY14, follows, while CPRG's achievements as measured by the PMEP are described in **Annex A- CPRG Achievements FY14 QR3**

Objective 1: Improved effectiveness of civil society to advocate for transparency and accountability of public institutions.

The first objective comprising the principal activity under the CPRG Program seeks to enable CSOs skills to mobilize citizens and better monitor and advocate for increased government transparency and accountability at national level. The activities completed, and or accomplishments achieved during this reporting quarter, are as follows:

1.1 RAPID ASSESSMENTS ON CIVIL SOCIETY AND TRANSPARENCY INSTITUTIONS

This activity was completed in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012. The Executive Summary of the report was reviewed by Headquarters and approved by USAID in this quarter (Please Refer to **Annex B- Executive Summary of the Civil Society Assessment CPRG** for reference).

1.2 ESTABLISH AND INITIATE CPRG GRANT FACILITY

During this reporting period, the program continued monitoring 11 open grants and was able to administratively close another 26 grants. As of June 30, 2014, CPRG has implemented 37 grants for a total amount of USD \$ 2,579,703.09 (including cost share). Please see **Annex C- CPRG Grants Table**

During the reporting period, cost-share was validated for 13 grantees (CAP & CPRG) with a value of \$101,630.05. This amount, added to the US \$517,568.08 previously validated at the end of March 2014, results in a total cost-share to-date of \$619,198.13, representing 56% of the Impactos life of program (LOP) cost-share commitment. Please see **Annex D - CAP Grants Table**

The grants team recorded and reviewed 99 financial reports and 56 cost share reports for the quarter. Financial support assistance and oversight provided by the team included 33 visits to 14 CSOs and 5 management support visits to program CSOs, to analyze and evaluate programmatic and financial performance of 14 grants.

Impactos staff, with support from the Central American Technological University (UNITEC), has begun the process of producing short educational videos on correct grant management procedures, with the aim of strengthening the technical and administrative capacities of CSO grantee partner staff. These short videos will provide steps for the correct application of administrative processes in managing grants. The videos are scheduled to be completed in the upcoming quarter.

With assistance of the CPRG technical team, the Grants team was ensuring partner compliance to the Branding Strategy (BSMP). In addition, the grants team reviewed the contents of the Grants Agreement, sections 3.1.6 and 10.6 to correct contradictions and omissions found within the approved BSMP. The proposal was approved by HQ, and with immediate effect conforms the Grant Agreements content with the BSMP.

The following grants were closed and the respective performance evaluations were conducted for the funded CSOs, with results as presented in the following table:

Table 1- Final CSO Performance Evaluation Results

CSO	Evaluated Consolidation %		Total
	Programmatic	Financial	
FOSDEH (TIG)	46.40	32.50	78.90
FDSF (NGOG)	37.20	38.60	77.80
CARITAS (NGOG)*	46.50	27.50	74.00

NEW GRANT CYCLE 2014-2015 (PY4 & PY5)

On May 7, Impactos solicited requests for applications (RFAs) to 23 pre-qualified CSOs participating in the award process of 9 grants for the period 2014-2015. (2 TRAG, 4 NGOG, 3 PICG).

On May 15, an RFA information session was held for 13 CSOs. Impactos' goal was to provide all CSOs with programmatic and financial guidelines for the new grant cycle.

On June 16, Impactos received 19 proposals from 11 CSOs. The following table details proposals received by each organization:

Table 2- CSO proposals received for New grant Cycle

No.	CSO	TRAG	NGOG	PICG
1	ALD		X	X
2	ASJ	X		
3	CDH			X
4	EROC		X	X
5	FDsF		X	
6	FOPRIDEH		X	X
7	FOROSIDA	X		
8	FOSDEH	X	X	X
9	GSC	X	X	X
10	SETELEC	X		
11	CNA	X		X
TOTAL		6	6	7

For each type of grant, 3 Application Selection Committees (SELCOM's) were integrated in accordance with the grants manual guidelines and approved by USAID's AOR. Each SELCOM was composed of members of the CPRG team, Grants team and one external evaluator. Additionally, a calendar of activities was established for the award processes, which will conclude on August 15, 2014. Timing is based on the assumption that a Counterpart/Impactos request to USAID for program modification and budget realignment, submitted to USAID on June 13th 2014 and currently pending approval, will be approved in time for the first disbursement to be made for initiating operations on each of the grant projects.

Simultaneous to the current grant cycle process, on May 28 CPRG began the renewal process for TIG grants. FOSDEH presented its proposal on June 20, and immediately was evaluated by the Impactos Program team. Timing of the TIG commencement will also hinge on timing of the approval of the

program and budget modification submitted to USAID, to enable a timely first disbursement of this grant. CIPRODEH, CASM and FOPRIDEH received approvals for non-cost extension to deliver the remaining deliverables and products in their grant projects by next July 2014. These 3 ISOs will be renewing their grants in the upcoming quarter.

The ALAC center (operated by ASJ) is also starting a renewal process. On June 23, ASJ presented the technical and financial proposal for the 2014-2015 timeframe. The evaluation process of the ASJ application will conclude next July 2014. The approval and disbursement of funds, as in the other applications received, will be subject to the approval of the Impactos program modification and the availability of funds.

In this period two new Rapid Response Fund (RRF) applications were received by the CPRG Component. In accordance with the grants manual (section 6.5), they are summarized, as follows:

1. On May 6 ASJ presented an application to work in the justice sector with the Public Prosecutor Office, expediting the prosecution of corruption cases, particularly those reported in the nationally prominent case of the Social Security Institute (IHSS). The Initial Application Summary Table was reviewed by Impactos proposal review staff and the application turned down, because it did not meet the RRF criteria of urgency, required for use of funds from the RRF grant category.
2. On May 20 FOROSIDA presented an application focused on advocacy of public policy that regulates the national responses to HIV and AIDS, and particularly on adequate and transparent allocation of national resources. The application was reviewed by the Impactos Program team. Based on this evaluation and in compliance with the grant awarding guidelines, the Grant Director asked FOROSIDA for a complete proposal for the Rapid Response grant in an amount of \$30,000. All application processing procedures, including the integration of a SELCOM, were completed this quarter. The final evaluation and corresponding decision will be made during the upcoming fourth quarter of FY14.

The following table provides a summary of all grants to be awarded in the new grant cycle:

Table 3- New Grant Awards

CPRG	Qty.	Total Amount
NGOG	4	\$140,000
TRAG	2	\$110,000
PICG	3	\$120,000
TIG	4	\$400,000
ALAC	1	\$50,000
RRF	1	\$30,000

1.3 COMPETITIVELY SELECT FOUR (4) INTERMEDIARY SUPPORT ORGANIZATION PARTNERS

ISO selection processes have taken place in previous years, according to the work plans implemented by CPRG. The coordination phase of thematic subjects to be developed during the new grants cycle

began in the current quarter. The following describes themes developed and progress achieved during the period with each one of the ISOs:

FOSDEH:

FOSDEH has focused on developing two parallel actions; (1) closure of the TIG grant period 2013-2014 (Year 3), and (2) preparation of a new proposal application for renewal of the grant. On April 23, FOSDEH submitted its final report for the TIG. A summary of highlighted achievements resulting from this grant is as follows:

- Design and installation by FOSDEH of an electronic system for monitoring communications media, replacing the manual system used in previous years. This system enables the FOSDEH team to monitor, on a timely manner and on real time in the web, the news of interest to the organization, allowing them to immediately analyze government reactions as a result of FOSDEH's advocacy actions.
- Since the beginning of this grant cycle's TIG, FOSDEH has conducted over 2,000 interviews to media, publicly highlighting 127 issues related to the economy and public finance, with 2,010 press releases prepared and information disseminated in more than 20 different media outlets of written press, TV and radio. On social networks, FOSDEH shared a series of documents with the latest information on the public budget.
- FOSDEH identified dialogue platforms and spaces to promote advocacy on the subject of gender in public administration, mainly in the financial system. During the implementation of the grant, FOSDEH was able to form partnerships with ONU Mujer¹⁸ (UN Women) and other local level women networks for the exchange of gender impact analysis information in fields related to fiscal policies. Although the Ministry of Finance manifests little interest in opening spaces for citizen participation, FOSDEH, together with its partners, has nevertheless been able to generate partnerships leading to demands for inclusion of gender indicators in the country's financial system. This action will be a focus of interest for the renewal of the grant.
- FOSDEH's capacity as a training and technical assistance provider organization was strengthened, as evidenced in their joint effort with the Honduras National Autonomous University (UNAH) to design and administer an online classroom for other entities and participants. The development of a certified course on "Fiscal Research for Advocacy" required an enormous effort by FOSDEH in collaboration with the UNAH. Involving key personnel from the organization, the management, technical team (specialized professionals) and administrative staff, FOSDEH developed the academic section of the certified course in effective coordination with the UNAH. To provide technical assistance for participants, an online classroom was created within FOSDEH's website, a space that enabled three-way communication among FOSDEH technicians, students and faculty.
- FOSDEH obtained a 100% score in their baseline evaluation related to their role as an ISO providing training and technical assistance; an improvement as compared to their 78.50% in this area obtained on their last Grant performance evaluation. This evaluation score is based on measurement of responses from CSOs asked about their degree of satisfaction upon receiving

¹⁸ ONU Mujer, Entidad de la ONU para la Igualdad de Género y el Empoderamiento de la Mujer - More at: <http://www.unwomen.org/es/about-us/about-un-women#sthash.SyetLKyt.dpuf>

training and technical assistance service from FOSDEH. This represents an increase of 21.50% in FOSDEH's score, demonstrating continuous improvement.

On June 3, a meeting with CPRG-FOSDEH technical staff was held to share and discuss results of the evaluation, generating positive feedback for both teams. The evaluation is an established requirement for the renewal process of the grant. On June 20, FOSDEH submitted its new technical-financial proposal. Following established regulations and procedures, the evaluation will be held by CPRG at the beginning of the next quarter.

CIPRODEH:

In its role as a training and technical assistance provider organization developed the following actions:

- Provided technical assistance to the Committee for Defense of Human Rights in Honduras (CODEH), to the Center for Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation to Victims of Torture and their Relatives (CPTRT), to the Civil Society Group (GSC) and to *Casa Alianza*, to coordinate approaches and to ensure their active participation in dialogue sessions with the National Congress' Security Commission, with which the draft bill for weapons control was discussed. Dialogue sessions were held on March 15 and 31.
- CIPRODEH provided technical assistance to the Human Development Center (CDH) and to *Asociación Compartir*, during dialogue and consensus meetings with officials from the Municipality of the Central District. Both organizations aim to advocate for the approval of a local development and youth labor policy in order to prevent crime in the Central District. The organizations met with the Mayor and members of the municipal corporations that lead security and social development commissions. Four (4) meetings were held on April 11 and 25 and on May 15 and 21.
- CIPRODEH provided technical assistance to CSOs (CODEH, CPTRT, GSC, CDH, and COMPARTIR) aimed at strengthening advocacy capacity in public policies and political dialogue of their technical teams in order to approach their target audience of decision-makers on advocacy initiatives. All of the aforementioned CSOs participated in a certification course on "Comprehensive Citizen Security Respectful of the Rule of Law." The level of participation achieved, and the issues promoted by the CSOs, will require follow-on technical assistance to be provided by CIPRODEH, i.e. beyond the activities and schedules foreseen in the grant.
- CIPRODEH developed, with the Impactos-supported Learning Community of four ISOs, a methodology for the mapping of stakeholders, resulting in development of a list of the main security-related government policies, plans and projects in the last 3 years. This was made available to other CSOs and CSO grantees implementing activities and initiatives related to security (and other) policies. This document adds to CPRG's toolbox of advocacy actions on the subject of citizen security.
- From May 29-31, 2014 CIPRODEH participated in a regional forum sponsored by Foundation Heinrich Böll (FHB) and titled "Network of Civil Society Organizations of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador," which was held in Petén, Guatemala.¹⁹ The forum lent itself to CIPRODEH's focus on security issues as a dimension of its work protecting human rights. CIPRODEH's

¹⁹More details on: <http://mx.boell.org/es/categories/seguridad-ciudadana>

emphasis on law enforcement system reform, professionalism (technical competence and ethics) of police and other justice sector actors has been supported by Impactos grant funding, as well as by other organizations such as through the FHB-sponsored forum.²⁰

FOPRIDEH:

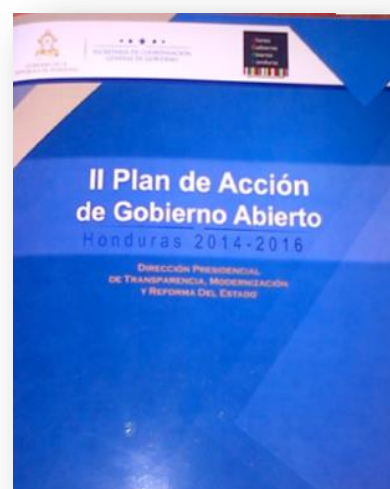
The Open Government Plan (OGP) was officially launched by the Honduran Government on June 30 2014, with participation of civil society, private enterprise, government, international cooperation and the diplomatic body. Although it was planned for the President of Honduras to be part of the event, he was not able to attend.

FOPRIDEH facilitated and emphasized a stage of awareness during the building process of the OGP, held from May 8 to 10 in five regions of the country (West, North, North-east, Central and South) prior to the formal consultation stage, to have a space for preparation to enable civil society organizations and citizens to develop important and relevant proposals on transparency. The formal consultation was provided from May 15 to 21, and validated on June 2 to 6. Three sectors that made up the leading committee and technical cooperation accompanied the process with financial and technical support (USAID through the Impactos Program, World Bank and European Union).

FOPRIDEH, through its TIG grant "Building opportunities, building a country with transparency and accountability," and OGP related topics accomplished the following:

FOPRIDEH served as an active participating member of the Technical Steering Committee of the Open Government initiative²¹, responsible for training of the Committee and coordinating the design of the Second Open Government Action Plan in Honduras.

This committee has become a space for dialogue between civil society²², government and the private sector, thus providing a unique forum and state-sanctioned venue for multi-stakeholder construction of public policy, constructive dialogue and planning between representative sectors of society that traditionally work independently.



²⁰ The general purpose of the Central American Regional Security network supported by FHB is to enable a space for civil society to exchange reliable information for monitoring of policies and actions of state security forces of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras; also for the development of analysis and proposals on specific aspects of public security, with a priority to preventative approaches. For the period 2013-2016, FHB plans are for civil society organizations in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras to network on security issues, conduct security system studies and research from the perspective and with the inputs of civil society in the three C.A. countries.

²¹ Please see more: <http://www.gobiernoabierto honduras.org/comite.html>

²² FOPRIDEH as an ISO, provided information, technical assistance and training for CSOs such as Caritas, GSC, ASJ and CAN- all of them involved on the Committee as a representatives from civil society.

While the committee experienced internal coordination and dialogue problems due to their inexperience in working together, obstacles of communications, leadership and distrust of agendas was overcome, and the development of the second action plan of open government was accomplished.

The support provided by the Impactos Program to the Technical Steering Committee, directly and through FOPRIDEH, was successful and effective, with FOPRIDEH's technical contributions largely appreciated by participants in the process. The dialogue and coordination is expected to evolve positively, and the Committee's work remains a positive instance of multi-stakeholder collaboration with government to monitor and advance transparency and accountability initiatives linked to the OGP.

The Second Open Government Plan developed through the Committee process included 13 OGP commitments the government has agreed to accept, as means to ensure compliance with the principles of the Open Government Partnership²³. These 13 commitments are divided into five themes:

- 1) Access to Public Information,
 - 2) Ethics and Civil Service,
 - 3) Budget and Accountability,
 - 4) Procurement and Contracting,
 - 5) Improving Public Services
- During May, supporting activities developed by FOPRIDEH contributing to the second OGP included the design and approval of the logo used by the committee, a tool for public information and consultation, and information materials and outreach on open government. Additionally, a variety of free spaces were negotiated on the television channels to disseminate and promote participation in the construction process of the second action plan for open government.
 - Videos, posters and pocket versions of the second OGP plan are being designed and will be published as part of the popular version communication package to provide citizens with an easily accessible version of the plan.

¿Qué significa OGP?

Open Government Partnership/ Alianza de Gobiernos Abiertos (AGA)

Es una iniciativa de la que Honduras y otros países del mundo han ratificado y se han comprometido para promover gobiernos más abiertos.

El concepto de Gobierno Abierto se sustenta en tres pilares básicos:

Transparencia:

Un Gobierno transparente fomenta y promueve la rendición de cuentas de la administración ante la ciudadanía y proporciona información sobre lo que está realizando y sobre sus planes de actuación. Cualquier institución debería permitir el acceso a esta información pública de manera sencilla y clara, permitiendo de esta manera que los ciudadanos puedan realizar un control de la acción de gobierno.

Colaboración:

Un Gobierno colaborativo implica y compromete a los ciudadanos y demás agentes en el propio trabajo de la administración pública. La colaboración supone la cooperación no sólo con la ciudadanía, sino también con las empresas, las asociaciones y demás agentes, y permite el trabajo conjunto.

Participación:

Un Gobierno participativo favorece el derecho de la ciudadanía a participar activamente en la conformación de políticas públicas y anima a la administración pública a beneficiarse del conocimiento y experiencia de los ciudadanos. Por tanto, impulsa acciones y orienta actuaciones que aumentan el protagonismo e implicación de los ciudadanos en asuntos públicos y compromete con mayor intensidad a las fuerzas políticas con sus conciudadanos.

¿Cómo participar?

- Encuesta de opinión pública
- Facebook y página web
- Jornadas de sensibilización de sociedad civil
- Consultas oficiales de gobierno

¡Solo lograremos un verdadero Gobierno Abierto con tus aportes!

Hemos elaborado esta encuesta de opinión pública para recopilar insumos ciudadanos sobre como mejorar los mecanismos de transparencia y participación ciudadana en la gestión pública.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1gT6y_RRkqv9gkvdtfveh_FyIF21MP8wT4QsJ_fVsic/viewform

impactos
Iniciativa de Participación Ciudadana, Transparencia y Rendición de Cuentas

FOPRIDEH
Federación de Organizaciones No Gubernamentales para el Desarrollo de Honduras

²³ More documents will find on: <http://www.gobiernoabierto honduras.org/documentos.html>

This activity will be concluded in the upcoming quarter.

CASM:

In fulfilling its organizational development strategy with partner CSOs in the development of the Self-Regulation Pilot System for Honduran CSOs, CASM, with the close technical assistance of the Impactos Program, has accomplished the following:

- On May 30, the Development NGO (NGO-D) Self-Regulation Pilot System was launched. Its objective was to strengthen trust and integrity of individuals and organizations of the NGO-D sector to improve quality of services provided. The system was developed by CASM with technical assistance from the Impactos Program and ICNL, through a participative process with development NGOs from throughout Honduras. The process included training on self-regulatory organizations, meetings and workshops to define principles, standards and operating mechanisms, socialization internally in organizations and ratification of commitments to participate. More information on the activity "1.8 Develop a CSO Self-Regulatory and Accountability System."
- CASM has continued systematizing its accountability and self-regulation processes, based on its experiences in recent years. These will be used as a baseline of experiences to guide internal institutional strengthening processes and to inform the self-regulation system. This internal process of reflection and learning, using a self-assessment based on 6 pillars proposed by Counterpart International's Organizational Development (OD) handbook, is currently in its final stage, and will be followed by development of its institutional strengthening and self-regulation plans.
- Organizational assessment processes have been completed and organizational development plans are being developed with three of CASM's CSO partners: EROC, LLM, and CDH. The result of the diagnosis was shared and socialized with CSOs beneficiaries, and is currently in the phase of constructing corresponding Organizational Development Plans for each of them.



Presentation of OD diagnosis results to LLM

Preliminary results indicate that the areas in which CSOs currently demonstrate their strengths are "Accounting and Financial Management" and "Human and Material Resources." This is not surprising, given that CSO access to and management of funds, and administration of human and material resources are the most regulated, both by national legislation and donor conditions precedent to CSOs receiving awards. The weakest areas of CSO capacity were found in "Financial Sustainability," "Leadership and Strategic Management" and "Program Management and Quality Control." An additional area of interest, worthy of future programmatic emphasis, was the lack of policies governing the roles and authorities of senior CSO leadership, to include roles and functions of CSO governing boards.

- On April 25, CASM led training on “Project Cycles” in the city of Siguatepeque with the objective of strengthening CSO’s Organizational Development capacity. A total of 20 persons from eight (8) local organizations participated in the event, of which 11 were men and 9 were women.

1.4 DESIGN AND DELIVER CUSTOMIZED PROGRAM TRAININGS

CPRG has been developing terms of reference for a consultancy for design of a methodological guideline to support the policy dialogue between CSOs and public policy entities and decision makers. As part of Impactos overall effort to build capacity of CSOs, this effort will focus on helping CSOs improve their advocacy and strategic constructive engagement skills. Trainings in this and other capacity building areas, already delivered by CPRG ISO and CSO grantees, are as follows:

CPRG

- **Training of Trainers (TOT)** - from May 5 to 9, this internal workshop was held with 15 Impactos Staff (8 women and 7 men) to help improve training services provided by Impactos to other institutions and grantees. The workshop focused on the Experiential Learning Cycle which was used to build and strengthen the skills of the participants.
- The CPRG component provided direct technical assistance to CASM regarding Organizational Development (OD) that this ISO provides to other CSOs. The specific areas covered were the following:
 - ✓ Strengthened technical skills of 4 CASM staff members (1 male and 3 females) in using the tools and content approach proposed by Counterpart International handbook of Organizational Development (OD).
 - ✓ Developed Institutional strengthening assessments for 3 CASM partners; EROC, LLM and CDH. Based on these organizational capacity assessments, four organizational strengthening plans were developed, one for each of the aforementioned CSOs.
- **Organizational Development of URSAC** – CPRG, through direct technical assistance to FOPRIDEH, enabled the latter to define the scope of work for an institutional capacity assessment for URSAC. The URSAC mission is particularly important given that the organization’s regulatory function of civil society organizations provides an enabling environment for civil society. Increasing CSO satisfaction with URSAC services contributes to strengthening civil society and affirming the state as promoter and guarantor of the right of freedom of association in the country.
- **ISOs monitoring of advances from the Baseline data** – The CPRG team provided direct technical assistance to FOSDEH, FOPRIDEH, CASM and CIPRODEH staff (4 females, 1 male) for the implementation of survey instruments defining the baseline of user satisfaction on trainings and technical assistance provided by the ISO, enabling processing and analysis of data for measurement of improvements based on Impactos support. Additionally, these partners were advised individually on the need for internal adjustments for processing and analysis of advances based on baseline monitoring.

CASM

- **Project Cycle:** workshop developed in Siguatepeque on April 23 and 24 with a total of 20 participants (11 men and 9 women). Please refer to **Annex F** for reference about the topics and methodology developed.
- **Design of a Self-Regulation Pilot System-** With technical assistance from the CPRG component staff and ICNL, on April 23 and 24 CASM developed a two-day workshop for a working group of NGO-Ds representatives led by the *Comisión de Acción Social Menonita* (CASM) to help the partners design a pilot self-regulation system.



CASM's Project Cycle workshop participants

Based on good international models, the 25 participants (11 men, 14 women) representing 21 NGO-Ds, drafted and agreed on a set of standards to help improve NGOs' accountability and good governance. ICNL also provided direct technical support to CASM for development of a list of responsibilities for a working group charged with assessing compliance with the standards. ICNL will continue to provide technical assistance to the working group throughout the implementation phase of the pilot. For more information please refer to section 1.8 and **Annex G** for CASMs Self-Regulation Document.

FOPRIDEH

- FOPRIDEH led five (5) informative “**Sensitizing Workshops on Open Government Initiative**” during the period May 8 to 19, each workshop serving as a preparation for citizens and sector leaders to provide input for the process of construction of the second OGP action plan. A total of 323 people participated in the five events (CSO personnel and news reporters - of which 160 were men and 163 women). Please refer to **Annex H** for methodological and thematic reference.

The following table provides all trainings led by ISOs and grantee CSOs:

Table 4- CSO Training Workshops

CSO	PMEP INDICATOR	TOPICS	DATES	PARTICIPANTS			
				Y	M	F	T
CASM	Number of CSO personnel trained in self-regulation	Training- “CSO Project Cycle”	April 23-24		11	9	20
	Number of CSO personnel trained in organizational development such as:	Training to CSOs on management project strategies.	March 27		15	16	31
	Organizational and management cycle, management strategies and project cycle.	Training on the design of a self-regulation pilot system.	April 23-24		11	14	25
FOPRIDEH	Number of CSO personnel being trained in self-regulation systems.	Training sessions on sensitizing CSOs for the official government inquiry on the	May 8-10, 2014		160	163	323

		construction of the second action plan (OGP).					
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1.5 SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ACTIVITIES OF A NATIONAL TRANSPARENCY COALITION AND CIVIC MOVEMENT

Through the Impactos Learning Community, and since past January, Impactos partners have attempted to organize a national forum of CSOs (*Gran Encuentro de OSCs*, as it has been billed in Spanish) working on issues of Transparency and Accountability. The event is conceived as a civil society platform presenting an agenda aimed to work strategically to achieve common goals.

The ISOs' technical staff developed a methodology, which was presented on May 4 to ISO Executive Directors. Discussions explored the importance of the activity, as well as interest and commitment among major Impactos ISOs and partners to participate in the event. Working guidelines were established in the meetings, which in itself would mark the beginning of strategic work. Nonetheless after this meeting, there has been little progress or signs of interest from the organizations. Therefore the "CSO encounter" (*Gran Encuentro de OSCs*) led by the ISOs remains uncertain at the end of this quarter. In terms of coordinated civic movements, a total of 22 NGOs coordinated and participated actively in the construction of a self-regulation pilot system promoted and led by CASM. Through this process there has been a development of cohesive and mature coalition of CSOs of which 19 are formally participating in the Self-Regulation and Performance Evaluation Standards. These organizations are already taking on the form of a coalition validating standards and data to achieve CSO self-regulation under the system they have built.

In terms of the ability of Impactos partners to broaden the impact of networks and engagement with a broader set of stakeholders, through what Impactos terms Strategic Constructive Engagement (SCE), Impactos is funding a Study of Cases drawn from six partners. The Protocol for carrying out the Study is provided at **Annex J**.

1.6 AWARD NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT GRANTS AND SUPPORT CSO WATCHDOG CAPACITY AND ACTIVITIES

During this reporting period, activities related to national government oversight were implemented and/or completed, as follows:

FOROSIDA

During March and April, FOROSIDA conducted a diagnostic survey as a preliminary step in preparation for conducting a social audit related to Honduran government recovery funds. The audit was done with the support of volunteers who were trained in transparency, methodology and legal frameworks needed for the social audit. The audit team was made up of 7 volunteers (2 men and 5 women -- in this group, 4 people with HIV). As a result of the effort, relevant information was obtained and compiled, and findings were drafted for submission to the authorities of the National Cardiopulmonary Institute (*Hospital del Tórax*). In addition, the results will be socialized with Civil Society, Government and international cooperation agencies.

At the same time, FOROSIDA used social auditing practices to generate dialogue with the authorities of the *Hospital del Tórax*, on issues of improved transparency, accountability and organization of an ethics and integrity committee. As part of this



Access to Public Information Workshop

Public Official Code of Ethics Workshop

process, FOROSIDA coordinated the social audit and dialogue initiative with the Superior Court of Auditors (TSC), the Institute of Access to Public Information (IAIP), and Technical Secretariat Coordination Mechanism of Honduras (MCP-H) Facility who have assisted in providing training workshops for officials (bioethics committee member trainees) who were part of the process of organizing the ethic and integrity committee at the *Hospital del Tórax*.

The first workshop was held on April 10th, on the Code of Ethics for Public Officials. The second workshop was held on June 5th on the Law of Transparency and access to Public Information, HIV in Honduras, and the Social Impact of the Epidemic (please refer to section 2.3).

As a complement to the assessment and social audit exercises, FOROSIDA designed an advocacy plan, which seeks to repeal the health recovery fee and other expenses for patients living with HIV. These actions have been performed as follows:

- Advocacy with National AIDS Commission (CONASIDA), National Congress and Ministry of Health (MOH).
- A series of initiatives were undertaken by FOROSIDA to promote affirmative action for repeal of the recovery fee and other expenses for services provided to people living with HIV. These include:
 - On May 23, the collection of petition signatures began in Tegucigalpa and among FOROSIDA's different chapters. To date a total of 2,700 signatures have been collected, with an established goal of 3,000 to be presented as support for affirmative action to the appropriate authorities.
 - On June 9, FOROSIDA held a press conference to highlight and encourage media solidarity with the initiative.
 - FOROSIDA developed related communication products such as banners, calendars, and newsletters, containing messages emphasizing the transparency of the recovery funds, free health care, integrity, and equality for people living with HIV.



Signature collection for elimination of the recovery fee



FOROSIDA's Press conference

FDsF

On March 12, 2014, the cooperation agreement between the Institute for Access to Public Information (IAIP) and Foundation for Democracy without Borders (FDsF) was signed, with the purpose of coordinating equity in transparency and accountability. Based on this agreement, during this quarter the FDsF achieved the following activities:

On April 09, 2014 the FDsF held a workshop for 40 Honduran National Congress officials on the Law of Access to Public Information; held in cooperation with the government's Institute for Access to Public Information



Congress Member Workshop

(IAIP). In this same workshop, public officials were oriented to accountability and transparency standards and received an instrument for quarterly reporting on the administration of Departmental Funds. These reports should be published and available to citizens on the Transparency Portal of the Honduras National Congress.

The grant closed on April 26, and achieved indicators and goals established in the project. FDSF has proven itself to be a reliable and hardworking CSO partner, responding well to technical assistance provided and presenting complete programmatic and financial reports on time. The results of their performance evaluation are as follows:

Table 5 – Performance Evaluation FDSF

CSO	Evaluated Consolidation %		
	Programmatic	Financial	Total
FDSF (NGOG)	37.20	38.60	77.80

EROC

EROC implements a grant-funded project promoting transparency in the implementation process of the public works road reconstruction of Western International Highway CA4. The following achievements were accomplished during this reporting period:

- As part of the development of a Manual for Oversight of Public-Private Partnerships, EROC requested feedback and pre-publication review of the draft document by partners as the National Anticorruption Council (CAN), the Institute of Access to Public Information (IAIP), TRIAS / Project Belgium funded, and International Trade Faculty of the Central University of the West (CUROC). The document, after being reviewed by the CPRG team in the upcoming quarter, will be socialized in a public event.
- EROC prepared a document describing topics and major achievements developed by the Citizen Observatory Road (OCC) as tools to conduct Social Oversight targeting public works in the road construction sector. EROC is confident that this mechanism and its tools will enable improvements in the levels of transparency and accountability in both political and public sector institutions, and increase public confidence in public institutions.

CARITAS

During this reporting period, CSO CARITAS concluded its NGOG Grant, “Social Audit of the Electoral Campaign in the general Election Process of 2013.” CARITAS developed a series of documents and materials that reflected the electoral process experiences, major findings of the electoral campaign, recommendations and proposed changes for the existing electoral law in the country.

The last communication material produced was a video documentary which informs the general population on the importance of identifying strengths and weaknesses within the electoral system as well as compliance with Law as a



condition for a transparent and fair exercise of the electoral process. The video's purpose is primarily as an advocacy tool to influence decision makers, particularly the Superior Court of Auditors (TSC), political leaders and CSOs.

CSO CARITAS' grant concluded during this reporting period. Their performance in the final programmatic and financial evaluation was satisfactory. As an overview of the accomplishments of the grants, they were able to complete 5 of the 6 indicators established. The indicator not reached was their goal of training public officials and the initiation of an operational electoral campaign monitoring tool. Consequently the final programmatic and financial evaluation was scored as follows:

Tabla 6 – Performance Evaluation CARITAS

CSO	Evaluated Consolidation %		
	Programmatic	Financial	Total
CARITAS (NGOG)	46.50	27.50	74.00

NEW NGOG GRANT CYCLE

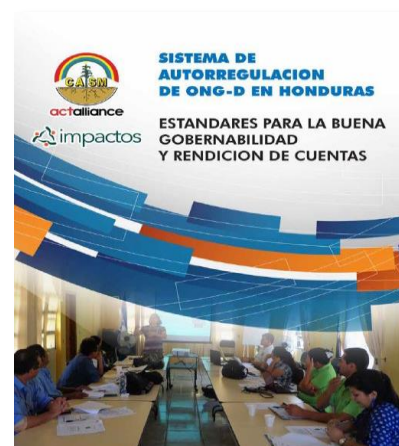
During this new upcoming cycle, four (4) NGOG grants will be awarded at \$35,000 each. Each will be framed within the following guidelines:

- Citizen oversight in the process of construction and approval of the regulation of the Law on the Classification of Public Documents Related to National Security and Defense; Special emphasis on the incorporation of efficiency standards in responding to requests for information and the definition of criteria for classifying information.
- Discretionary application of tax regulations to NGOs sector and other civil associations and their impact on the exercise of freedom of association.
- Citizen Oversight to financing processes and mechanisms of the new investment economic model being driven by Honduran government.

For this new NGOG grant cycle, the following CSOs presented proposals: ALD, EROC, FDsF, FOPRIDEH, FOSDEH, and GSC. These are still in the SELCOM process.

1.7 PROVIDE TARGETED CONSULTATIONS ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT AND INCREASED GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

During this quarter, none of the CSOs requested technical assistance to hire specialized consultants. There are 12 grants being executed in this quarter, of which 8 were assigned during project year 3 and are about to finalize and 4 grants were assigned during year 4. Reasons for not requiring technical assistance are that the first grants group has almost finalized implementing actions, and the second group has already hired the consultants, according to the work plans of each grant.



1.8 DEVELOP A CSO SELF-REGULATORY AND ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

CASM, with support from the CPRG Component, technical assistance from ICNL and using a participative process with a group of local CSOS, developed a Self-Regulation Pilot System for NGO-Ds. The system's purpose is to identify, implement and sustain professional standards and norms for CSOs, strengthening trust and integrity of individuals and organizations of the NGO-D sector to improve quality of services provided. It is expected that the system will strengthen the confidence of citizens, donors and the Honduran government in NGO-D CSOs participating in self-regulation, and improve the quality of CSO performance.

During the quarter, the following was accomplished: Training for NGO-Ds on self-regulation models, meetings and workshops to define principles, standards and working mechanisms, internal socialization within the organizations, and commitment on behalf of the CSO's leadership and support staff participating.

CSOs agreed the most accurate model for the NGO-D sector in Honduras is **Peer- Review**. This model provides a balance between cost of regular evaluation of CSO adherence to standards and the rigorousness of the system. This includes monitoring mechanisms as well as compliance and sanctions.

Self-regulation areas agreed among the NGO-Ds included the following: governance, financial management, communication and relationships, transparency and accountability, quality of services, and human resource management. The evaluation committee is comprised of five (5) organizations (FOSDEH, FOPRIDEH, ADAAT, PAG and CASM). This group is responsible for implementing and monitoring the pilot phase of the system. The committee will monitor, verify and certify whether a CSO meets all of the requirements.

On May 20, an evaluation committee meeting was held in Tegucigalpa together with the Impactos Program and ICNL. The purpose of this meeting was to provide follow-up on the activities and confirm participation from CSOs, and also to clarify the functions and actions to be accomplished by the evaluation committee. The official participants of this committee are: FOPRIDEH, ADAAT, PAG and CASM.

On May 30th, the launching of the Self-Regulation Pilot System took place in Tegucigalpa, where 19 CSOs subscribed to a letter of commitment to participate in the pilot process. A total of 41 people attended the event (22 women and 19 men) of which 30 (16 men and 14 women) represented civil society organizations actually participating in the self-regulation pilot program. The remaining individuals represented cooperation agencies, URSAC, CASM and Impactos. URSAC's executive director commended the CSOs' initiative and requested civil society to collaborate with its office.



Signature Agreement for Self-Regulation Pilot System



Evaluating Team of the System



Launching of Self Regulation System

1.9 SUPPORT PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGNS TO FIGHT CORRUPTION APATHY AND INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF EXISTING ANTI-CORRUPTION LEGISLATION

During this reporting period, the following was achieved with FOSDEH's grant, "Let's Conduct Citizen Audit of the Public Debt":

- On April 3rd, a meeting was held with the coordinator of the Honduras National Autonomous University's (UNAH's) School of Sociology, where FOSDEH agreed to prepare a methodological proposal to jointly carry out public events and forums on the impacts of public debt, a focal point of the PICG grant. The debates are scheduled to take place in the first week of July.
- On May 22nd, communication materials from the campaign were published for distribution and dissemination. Communication pieces include data and numbers on the impact of the debt on the public budget. One thousand (1,000) posters and one thousand (1,000) decals were printed. The following are examples of campaign materials created in the current quarter.
 - Press Relations: FOSDEH's team responded to 45 specific consultations on the issue of public debt, through 17 different media outlets (television, radio and newspapers).
 - 3 radio spots were created, as part of the campaign, which are currently in approval process and are planned to air during the first weeks of the upcoming quarter.



NEW PICG GRANT CYCLE

During the upcoming grant cycle, three (3) PICG grants will be awarded at \$40,000 each. These grants, framed within the following guidelines, are designed to develop three distinct public information campaigns, as follows:

- A citizen communication and information campaign about the content of the NGO-D Law and its regulations, using citizen friendly material and alternative communication media targeted to the NGO-D sector as a means to promote an enabling environment for the realization of the right to freedom of association within Honduran civil society.
- A citizen communication and information campaign on content, scope and expectations of social benefit of the implementation of the 2nd Plan of Action on Open Government in Honduras (PAGAH) submitted to the Alliance for Open Government in the first half of 2014.
- An information campaign targeted to the NGO-D sector on financing process and mechanisms of the new economic investment model being strongly driven by the Honduran government, identifying challenges and opportunities of the sector.

For this new grant cycle, the following CSOs presented NGOG proposals; ALD, CDH, EROC, FOPRIDEH, FOSDEH, GSC and CNA – all still in the SELCOM process at the end of the quarter.

1.10 SUPPORT TARGETED ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS TO IMPROVE THE CIVIL SOCIETY OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

On the enabling environment for the performance of the Honduran CSOs, please refer to section 1.8.

1.11 SUPPORT NON-PARTISAN POLICY RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY INITIATIVES

During this reporting period, three (3) TRAG grants are in the implementation process. The progress achieved to date is as follows:

FOSDEH

FOSDEH has engaged in various efforts to help decision-makers and citizens in general be alerted to the significant impact the national debt has on the general Honduran budget. To that end, the following advocacy actions have been undertaken.

- On March 28th, a training workshop was conducted with the participation of 64 Public Information Officers (PIO). The Public officials were exposed to the full range of FOSDEH's information and analysis on public debt. On April 30th, an official letter was submitted to the Commissioners of the Institute of Access to Public Information, requesting actions so that all government institutions having a website or transparency page place in the web page the information regarding indebtedness (reports on expenditures execution).




- On May 20th, a public event was carried out to disclose findings of the *floating debt* research. The findings were placed in the book “Old and New Challenges of Public Debt in Honduras.” The informative book provides readers with important concepts on different types of debt (internal debt, external debt and floating debt); proportion and impacts of public debt in Honduras, and new modalities of public debt (e.g. bonds and trusts).

The book provides conclusions and recommendations. One of the most relevant recommendations which will require new rigor on the part of the Honduran State in formulation, implementation, and management of public policy and institutions is the following: “**Establish an overall and annual debt ceiling based on a true sustainability analysis of same, as well as of each new debt mechanisms, penalizing with real actions the debt generators in addition to the approved budget.**” Grant Closure was completed on June 30, 2014.

C- LIBRE

C-LIBRE achieved important progress with the two TRAGs being implemented.

The purpose of the Transparency <research and Advocacy grant (TRAG) is to fund the preparation of an **alternative report on compliance with the Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information**. The following actions were achieved:

- On April 1st and 25th, as part of the collaborative effort between IAIP & C-LIBRE, the Public Information Officers (PIOs) of the public entities received orientation on the methodology and tools being used by the Institute of Access to Public Information (IAIP) to verify and evaluate the transparency of web pages. The results of this evaluation action help IAIP publish the degree of compliance to the Law of Transparency and Access to Information, mainly compliance to disclosure of official information, as established in Article 13 of the Law. On its last report published on May1st, IAIP notified results of the evaluation conducted in 102 public institutions²⁴.
- 
- Training on Verification of Transparency Portals*
- On April 28-30 and May 6th, 7th and 9th, C-LIBRE held meetings with 10 representatives from 6 CSOs (CARITAS, GSC, FOSDEH, CNA, CIPRODEH and APJ) to promote their participation in the design and validation process of a new methodology to evaluate transparency web pages.
 - On May 14th and 15th, two workshops were implemented with participation of 9 CSOs' representatives at the first session. The second workshop found 16 PIOs participating from those public institutions ranking highest in transparency in the last IAIP report. The purpose of the workshops was to receive inputs for design of a new methodology to evaluate transparency web pages and to validate the assessment of degrees of transparency and safeguarding of the right to access public information in various state institutions²⁵. The assessment was prepared by C-Libre as a baseline document to support the importance of having new methodologies and tools to evaluate compliance with the LTAIP.
 - C- Libre and IAIP agreed on a joint Work Plan to design two tools: 1) the new methodology to evaluate compliance with the LTAIP and 2) a Manual for Public Information Officers (PIOs). This methodology will include a new approach called "Proactive Transparency," meaning citizen participation is taken into account to achieve compliance with the right of Access to Public Information. i.e., citizens are able to identify in public transparency web pages information that has a social meaning.

The purpose of the Manual for Public Information Officers (PIOs) is to standardize procedures for PIOs to input information in web sites or transparency web pages. This innovative manual will be a first for Honduras, developed in response to the demand of the PIOs that participated in

²⁴Details in the report published in:

http://www.iaip.gob.hn/images/stories/pdf/informe_verificacion/informe%20julio%20a%20diciembre%202013%2013-3-14.pdf

²⁵<http://www.iaip.gob.hn/index.php/noticias-recientes/406-sociedad-civil-se-capacita-por-el-iaip-y-c-libre-sobre-como-verificar-portales-de-transparencia>

the workshop on June 15th. This PIO Manual is complementary to the transparency web pages evaluation methodology.

- IAIP's commitment has been evident throughout the design process of the new methodology evaluating compliance with the LTAIP. As an indication of the importance that the IAIP has placed on the results of this grant, the new methodology is one of the benchmarks included in the 2014-2016 2nd Plan of Action for Open Government in Honduras (PAGAH)²⁶.

The IMPACTOS Program will continue to provide special support and technical assistance to C-LIBRE in its role as a civil society oversight organization in charge of monitoring compliance of the Second Action Plan, by verifying achievement of the benchmarks related to compliance with LTAIP.

- Grant activities related to research **on the Honduran security tax**, destined to prevent crime in the municipalities of San Pedro Sula, Puerto Cortes, Nacaome and Juticalpa, and were centered on field research. This grant is implemented through investigative journalism; also using applicable legal mechanisms for forcing public access to documents, according to the LTAIP. In the first phase of research in the municipalities, there was no openness to provide information, and the information gathered was incomplete. Due to this situation, it was necessary to use the administrative and legal processes and appeal assistance resources offered by the IAIP, established in the LTAIP. By the end of the quarter, C-LIBRE processed the information for analysis and interpretation. In the upcoming quarter, data analysis will be finalized and findings on use of the Security Tax and recommendations of the research will be able to be socialized.

NEW TRAG GRANT CYCLE

During this new upcoming cycle two (2) TRAG grants will be awarded at \$50,000 each, each framed within the following RFA thematic areas:

- Access to Public Information within the Public Private Alliance (APP) framework in conformity to international open government standards and good citizen oversight practices on the application of new economic models driven by the Honduran government.
- Restrictions and opportunities in the application of civil society's fiscal framework to promote enabling environments for the sector- study cases on implications of the current fiscal reform of the country.
- Compliance of individual roles and shared responsibilities between the operating entities of justice under laws applicable to institutions and emblematic cases of corruption in Honduras.

For this new grant cycle, the following CSOS presented NGOG proposals: ASJ, FOROSIDA, FOSDEH, GSC, SETELEC, and CNA, all of which were still in the SELCOM process at the end of the reporting period.

²⁶ Honduras is part of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) which is as global effort that promotes the improvement in government management; its purpose is to reach concrete commitments from the governments to promote transparency, empowering citizens, fight corruption and take advantage of new technologies to strengthen governance. <http://www.ogphub.org/es/introduccion/que-es-la-alianza-para-el-gobierno-abierto-ogp/>

1.12 ORGANIZE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION (CSO) NETWORKING, COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION EVENTS

During this reporting period, Impactos Program and CSO activities in this area were as follows:

- CPRG has already begun preparations for the National Transparency Forum. This activity is to be developed during the upcoming quarter. The event is being designed so that CSOs are exposed to the citizens in “fairs,” programs and projects on transparency. There will be an opportunity for those state authorities responsible for promotion of the PAGAH initiative to engage with participants and discuss and promote mechanisms empowering citizen oversight and participation in government development initiatives and general governance. There will also be exchanges of experiences, lessons learned and best practices between CSOs, government, private sector and international cooperation.
- From March 13th to May 16th, FOPRIDEH led the socialization phase of the open government initiative as part of the formulation of the PAGAH. The following actions were undertaken: implementation of citizen surveys in public places within 5 regions of the country as well as online surveys to CSOs, television programs, and training for journalists, meetings with CSOs to generate awareness of the OGP issues and to establish policy positions from various sectors, and a campaign for 5 days of national awareness.



Open Government Invitation



*Open Government Press Conference
Reference: HonduDiario*

- On May 22nd, FOSDEH developed an event through its TRAG grant on the “Weight of the Honduran Public Debt.” CSOs, government entities, public opinion leaders and cooperation agencies attended. During the event, information on public debt, and its impact on the national budget and Honduran fiscal policy, were disseminated and socialized. This conference was complementary to the public campaign implemented by FOSDEH, to raise public awareness about public debt and encourage more organizations to take action on Social Audit of Public Debt.



FOSDEHs Weight of the Honduran Public Debt

- On May 14th and 15th, C-LIBRE through its TRAG grant designed and sponsored a CSO Focal Group Meeting to discuss, analyze and validate new elements



C-Libre Focal Group Meeting

on the evaluation methodology of the Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information through transparency web portals. This activity accomplished the following:

- Operationalize the new Transparency concept from active to a *proactive transparency*. This new approach seeks to change the cultural pattern, from the traditional one in which citizens demonstrate a passive-reactive approach to a more proactive cultural behavior.
- Verify Transparency web portals together with, Public Information Officers (PIOs) and civil society representatives.
- Verify Transparency web portals with emphasis in: public services, security and financial issues.
- CASM led organizational assessment processes for CDH, EROC and Liga de Lactancia Materna (LLM), with the purpose of providing elements to develop Organizational Development plans for each CSO.
- On May 30th, CASM launched the Self-Regulation Pilot System for NGO-Ds. A total of 19 CSOs signed participation agreements to start the pilot system. The evaluation committee, representing 4 CSOs, was also presented in the event.
- On June 4th, ALAC/ASJ developed a press conference, “Human Cost of corruption in the Property Institute.” CSO members, public officials and representatives of international cooperation agencies attended the event. The goal was to report acts of corruption from the Property Institute and make a public request for prompt and exemplary justice.



Launching of Self-Regulation Pilot System



ALAC/ASJ Press Conference

1.13 DECISION TO NOT PROCEED WITH PILOT OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH MODEL

The Quarterly Report for the second quarter (January- March 2014) provides all information on why the activity is no longer proposed for implementation. Additional information is contained in the document submitted to USAID on June 13th 2014 for approval of the amendment of the Impactos program and budget in this final stage of implementation.

1.14 EXPANSION OF THE LEGAL ADVISORY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION CENTER TO NORTHERN HONDURAS

ALAC has continued operations in offices located in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula. The grant closed on May 30th. June activities were primarily a review of all the documents presented by ASJ in the closure process (programmatic and financial).

Also, Impactos held meetings with the ASJ/ALAC team to discuss the working guidelines to be included in the new proposal, in order to continue with Impactos financial support.

Major ALAC/ASJ accomplishments are described as follows:

- The majority of citizen complaints delivered between April and May to Education, Health, Property Institute, INA, Municipalities and Customs government agencies are detailed as follows:

Table 7- Summary of Complaints received by the ALAC

ALAC Office	Calls received to the 131 line	Administrative Resolutions
ALAC Tegucigalpa	77 corruption complaints.	8 administrative resolutions in the Education sector.
ALAC San Pedro Sula	56 corruption complaints.	1 administrative resolution in the Education Sector.

The toll-free line 131 provided to ASJ by the National Commission of Telecommunications (CONATEL) has allowed the legal assistance and complaint service to be spread nationwide. The 131 line is available through any landline or cellphone. Personnel answering the calls will enter complaints into the internal tracking system, followed by preliminary vetting of facts, followed, when warranted, by referring the cases to the cognizant government entities for further remedy of grievances, investigation and or prosecution.

During this quarter, ASJ/ALAC continued with activities aimed to inform the citizens about this toll-free line. Informational material was developed with ASJ/ALAC resources, as well as through private and public sector support.

- In June, ALAC and other CSOs involved in justice advocacy initiatives brought before the Public Ministry (MP) a total of 20 new cases of corruption in the Property Institute (IP), including 8 in Tegucigalpa and 12 in San Pedro Sula²⁷.



²⁷ News: <http://www.elheraldo.hn/pais/716144-331/denuncian-en-la-fiscal%C3%ADa-20-casos-de-corrupci%C3%B3n-en-el-ip>

Objective 2: Improved capacity of public institutions to address gaps in the enabling environment for transparency and accountability

A second key aspect of the CPRG component is the establishment of mechanisms for communication and collaboration with GOH in the implementation of each grant. This quarter, the program continues to strengthen the 22 collaborative relationships achieved in the first grants cycle, facilitating the implementation of advocacy strategies aligned to institutional and legal frameworks in CSO-government interactions. As a result, CSOs now enjoy an environment more conducive to activities promoting transparency and accountability in a democratic environment.

2.1 CONDUCT ONGOING JOINT TRANSPARENCY CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY MAPPING- (LEARNING COMMUNITY)

During this quarter, the Learning Community (LC) continued implementing activities aimed to achieving greater ownership of concepts and approaches identified and cultivated in ISOs. The purpose was to ensure that advocacy initiatives are incorporated into public policies, as well as to reaffirm the importance of monitoring implementation of public policies beyond their formal approval.

Under this new line of thought, the LC attempted to reach elusive milestones, a technically vetted and consensus-approved construction of a methodological script for the “Honduran civil society meeting.”

Consequently, On May 6th, the IMPACTOS Program summoned the 4 ISO executive directors to motivate them to finalize all preparations for the event. Nonetheless, the 4 ISOs were unable to reach a consensus on how to join representatives of the social sector (CSOs) in debate on critical issues for the country’s development. CPRG judges that ISO leaders are being cautious due to the current fluid and somewhat still complex political and governance context of the country, and a civil society where the polarizing divides following the 2009 constitutional crisis are still healing. Against this backdrop, a unified voice and shared strategies on how to promote and engage on national reform agendas remains a challenge.

In conclusion, the Program has old and new challenges to overcome. Some of these include empowering ISOs to strengthen their lines of thought on how to engage in strategic constructive engagement among themselves, with donors and with the government. There is no doubt that the Honduran civic advocacy agenda requires, today more than ever, partnerships and effective network building strategies, defined by the clarity with which CSOs understand and manage their roles and functions.

TIG grants will be renewed for selected CSOs next quarter; and Impactos will seek opportunities to renew and renovate relations with those ISOs or partner CSOs committed to non-partisan strategic constructive engagement. The Learning Community, as a proactive space that facilitates learning, empowering networks and providing tools and tactics for achievement of CPRG objectives, will be an important resource for improving CSOs’ capacities and competencies in a dynamic implementation environment.

A pending task under this activity is the strengthening of the Superior Court of Auditors (TSC) Office of Municipal Audits (DAM). This quarter, the CPRG Technical Team has begun contacts with key actors to map opportunities for synergy with other potential partners, and to be able to provide a fuller package of technical assistance and resources to the DAM. An area that IMPACTOS deems needs

additional assistance, is for strengthening of the accountability mechanism of the municipalities within the framework called SAMI (Integral Municipal Management System). Under this system, the Government seeks greater accountability of municipalities for resources transferred by the Central Government to those Municipalities. SAMI is linked to the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Human Rights, Justice and Decentralization and to the Court of Accounts, and counts on the municipal level DAM for the supervision of municipal budget execution. The DAM has an important mandate within the System, to review and approve information from accountability related data submitted by municipalities to the DAM.

Next quarter, follow-up information will be provided on actions to materialize the approach to DAM. One notable possibility being explored is to coordinate actions with the Honduras Association of Municipalities (AMHON) and as well as other donors involved in the SAMI system.

2.2 FACILITATE COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS AND DIALOGUE CHANNELS BETWEEN CSOs AND PUBLIC ENTITIES

During this reporting quarter, Impactos Program and grantees have established collaborative partnerships and achieved dialogue channels between CSOs and public entities;

CPRG:

During May and June, 3 meetings were held with the Presidential Transparency and Modernization State Office in order to establish communication and coordination around technical support and accompaniment from the Impactos Program and CSOs funded by the Program. As a result, 2 joint meetings were held between the Technical Committee of the Second Government Action Plan of Honduras and Impactos, with the following results:

- May 14th, meeting with the purpose to discuss the methodology and action plan for the field activities regarding sensitization, consults and socialization, as a preparatory step to construction of the 2nd Action Plan of Open Government (II PAGAH).²⁸ The meeting was attended by the World Bank and the Impactos Program.
- June 12th, Technical Committee meeting with the Transparency Roundtable of G16. In this meeting the Technical Committee presented the PAGAH as a first draft. The participants provided important feedback for fine-tuning the plan.

Through the mechanism agreed between the Presidential Office and the Impactos Program, both parties will identify needs for strengthening of CSOs and governmental actors in order to ensure the success of the OGP initiative.

FOPRIDEH:

As part of the ongoing analysis performed by CSOs in monitoring the "Pact for Honduras," which planned for a process by which multi-stakeholder working groups would be organized to dialogue and develop multi-sector policy option analysis for consideration by the government, FOPRIDEH promoted a meeting between CSOs and Alden Rivera, a government coordinator of the Pact. This

²⁸ Segunda Plan de Accion de Gobierno Abierto (PAGAH), dated 30 June 2014; full text download available at <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/files/version-final-ii-pagah-2014-2016-p%C3%A1gina-web-1pdf/download>

meeting was held on April 1st, and it was presented to the High Level Committee chosen by the government to restructure the dialogue roundtables. The process was suspended while the commission restructured the methodology and involved more civil society organizations. This process currently remains suspended.

During the month of May, FOPRIDEH and the Interagency Committee on Open Government Partnership led “Awareness Days” on OGP with civil society and a total of 45 government officials participating in the meetings. In the formal consultations, FOPRIDEH assisted the Presidential Office in the conduct of Awareness Day meetings for 63 government officials.

Representatives of civil society in the Interagency Committee on Open Government Partnership (ASJ, FOPRIDEH, CARITAS, GSC, CNA), influenced important demands of civil society, arising from the priority needs identified by organizations and shared in development of tools for public consultations, the latter embodied in the aforementioned PAGAH, which was officially launched on June 30th, 2014.

2.3 DELIVER TARGETED AND DEMAND-DRIVEN TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

During this reporting period, 8 implementing grantee CSOs from the Impactos Program provided training to 242 public officials (of which 141 were men and 101 were women). The topics of these trainings were; Code of the Civil Servant, Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information, HIV in Honduras, Statistics and Social Impact of the Epidemic, NGO-D rules and legislation, Right to Free Association: International standards and international good practices, Youth Economic Development Policies, Law for Weapons Control, importance of the publication of Honduras floating debt data in web pages, managing accusations and complaints for the improvement of Ministry of Education services, and new methodology to evaluate transparency web pages.

The following table describes training and technical assistance provided to public officials.

Table 8- Training Delivered to Public Officials

CSO	PMEP Indicator	Topics	Public Institution	Dates	Participants			
					Y	M	F	T
FDsF (NGOG)	Number of public officials from National Congress trained in accountability and transparency processes.	Law of Access to Public Information	National Congress	April 9		31	9	40
FOROSIDA (NGOG)	Number of public health officials being trained in social audit, transparency, ethics and accountability	Code of the Civil Servant	Cardiopulmonary Institute/Thorax Hospital	April 10		10	3	13
FOROSIDA (NGOG)	Number of public health officials being trained in social audit, transparency, ethics and accountability	Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information HIV in Honduras, Statistics and Social Impact of	Cardiopulmonary Institute/Thorax Hospital	May 6		10	5	15

		the Epidemic						
CASM (TIG)	Number of public officials trained in the Law and Rules for ONGD (Non-governmental Development Organizations)	NGO-D Rules and Legislation	Ministry of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization (SDHJGD)	April 23 and 24		12	12	24
FOPRIDEH (TIG)	Number of public officials being trained in transparency, accountability, role of civil society and governance.	Right to Free Association: International standards and international good practices.	Ministry of Human Rights, Justice, Governance and Decentralization (SDHJGD)	April 24	8	10	12	22
CIPRODEH (TIG)	Number of public officials trained in public policies of integral security.	Youth Economic Development Policies	Municipality of the Central District	May 15 and 21		6	9	15
CIPRODEH (TIG)	Number of public officials trained in public policies of integral security.	Law for Weapons' Control	National Congress	March 31		4	1	5
FOSDEH (TRAG)	Number of Public Officials trained in aspects of transparency, accountability.	Importance of the publication of Honduras Floating Debt data in web pages.	Institute of Access to Public Information	March 28		44	30	74
ALAC	Number of public officials receiving technical assistance	Managing accusations and complaints for the improvement of Ministry of Education services.	May 13	May 13		6	6	12
C-LIBRE TRAG	Number of public officials trained in transparency.	New methodology to evaluate transparency web pages	IAIP	May 15		8	14	22

A review of training mechanisms and methodologies appropriate to CSO training of public officials was undertaken this quarter with inputs based in part on ISO organizational development and capacity evaluations. As a result, the technical assistance and training provided by CSOs to public officials has been included as a line of action within the framework of the new TIG grants.

To strengthen CPRG's Objective 2, and for CSOs to qualify for the new funds of the new grant cycle, requests for application will be required to include an element that favors actions aimed to strengthening of public institutions through provision of training and technical assistance.

2.4 SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INCREASED GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

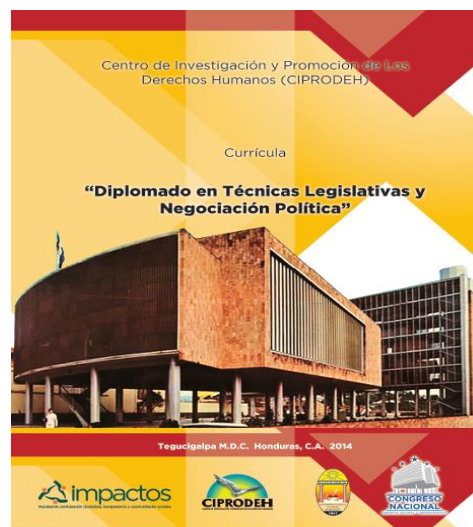
Under the cooperation agreement signed between FOPRIDEH and SDHJGD, Impactos provided technical assistance to SDHJGD to define institutional diagnosis scope for the Unit for Registry and Monitoring of Civil Society Organizations (URSAC).

2.5 ESTABLISH AND AWARD RAPID RESPONSE GRANTS (RRG)

CIPRODEH:

Within the grant's terms of reference, "Strengthening the Capacities of Honduran Legislators to Contribute to Democracy and Good Management of the National Congress", the following has been undertaken:

- Agreement with the Presidency of National Congress (CN) to develop a Certification Course on Legislative Techniques and Political Negotiation. The willingness of Congressional leadership to subscribe to this activity resulted in the appointment of a Networking Team that will play a facilitating role of communications between CN's Legislative Commissions, party leaders represented in the CN and congress people. This networking team is coordinated by CN's Legislative Administration (Unit of technical support to CN's Presidency).
- Acceptance of the Honduras National Autonomous University as co-sponsor for the proposed certification course.
- Cost analysis to obtain academic accreditation and approval of expert teachers in political negotiation, from the George Washington University faculty.
- Preparation of a concept document developing purposes, scope and curricular content of the Certified Course.
- Work plan opening the Certified Course next August 9.



FOROSIDA:

FOROSIDA presented an application for a rapid response fund grant, which was evaluated on May 28th by the CPRG staff. CPRG has provided the CSO with inputs for the complete proposal preparation. Impactos held two more meetings with FOROSIDA to discuss the evaluation and specific recommendations to include the open government principles as requirements for the specific topics selected.

On June 20th, FOROSIDA presented its final proposal requesting funds for a rapid response grant, which at the end of this reporting period was still under evaluation by the respective SELCOM. The results, subject to program modification and funding authority, will be released next quarter.

V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

CPRG

Grant implementation

This reporting period, a total of 14 grants were being implemented by 10 CSOs. During this quarter, 6 grants have been closed, as follows;

- **NGOG:** FDsF, CARITAS
- **TIG:** FOSDEH, CIPRODEH,
- **TRAG:** FOSDEH
- **ALAC-** ASJ

CSOs C-LIBRE (TRAG), FOROSIDA (NGOG), EROC (NGOG), FOSDEH (PICG), FOPRIDEH (TIG), CASM (TIG) and CIPRODEH (RRF) will be closing their grants in the upcoming quarter.

Monitoring Verification visits

During this reporting period, a total of 10 monitoring visits were held. The main purpose of these monitoring sessions was to provide technical assistance and monitor achievement of indicator targets and products of all 14 grants, as well as compliance to KM Portal upload guidelines. All visits have direct support from CPRG's technical staff.

Knowledge Management (KM) Portal Trainings

During this quarter a total of 4 KM training sessions were held for new technical staff users from 3 grantee CSOs -- C-LIBRE (2), FOROSIDA(1), and ALAC/ASJ.

Due to changes in the KM Portal, demand-driven assistance was provided to members within the CPRG staff, to update them on the use and uploading of the information to the system. Monthly monitoring was provided to ensure that all grantee CSOs are uploading their activities, events, trainings and/ or technical assistances to the system. Monitoring and Evaluation provided a monthly update on the current status on the KM portal for each corresponding CSO.

Baseline

During this reporting period, the CPRG team provided technical assistance to the ISOs for the monitoring advance of the baseline information regarding client satisfaction index. The ISOs continued updating the information through the application of surveys to beneficiaries of the 4 ISOs. This included activities such as preparations of surveys and specific trainings around the client satisfactions surveys, the use of the software, processing and analysis of data for user satisfaction on trainings and technical assistance. Additionally they were advised individually on their internal adjustment for processing and analysis of the baseline monitoring.

In compliance to Impactos Program's IRs describing outcome 1.3 - Improved Capacity of Intermediary Service Organizations (ISOs) to serve as training and CSO support service providers, data evaluation of all client satisfaction indexes performed by the 4 ISOs will be provided by the end of FY4.

STUDY OF CASES ON STRATEGIC CONSTRUCTIVE ENGAGEMENT

This quarter, an Impactos in-house effort resulted in publication of the "*Impactos Program Case Study Protocol*," hereafter referred to simply as "The Protocol," which constitutes the conceptual base and methodology that will guide the structure, development and implementation of the selected cases for a two-phase Case Study. The Case Study will identify key factors that enabled *Impactos* Program partners to achieve *Strategic Constructive Engagement* with governance institutions at local, municipal and national levels leading to major policy and good governance (CPRG focus) and prevention of violence (CAP focus) outcomes; the latter, as defined in the Performance, Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (PMEP).

A total of six (6) CSO partners have been selected to be targets of the two-phase case studies process, as follows:

Phase I – Exploratory Case Study (ECS) will be undertaken with two (2) Impactos partner CSOs, one selected from among CPRG partners and another from CAP partners. The pilot Exploratory Case Studies are envisioned as a shortened Impactos partner CSO case study, with the primary purpose of validating the overall Case Study design and analysis strategy, i.e. before launching into the larger multi-case Phase II study, described below. The ECS studies will help identify or refine case study evaluative questions, provide important measurement constructs, and develop actual measures to be used in Phase II for testing Case Study hypotheses and findings. The ECS will also shape and formulate expectations for the larger Impactos Program Case Study (IPCS) and offers to improve overall confidence in the Case Study results. The ECS will be completed before launching into the larger scale investigation of four additional CSO partner cases to be completed in Phase II (i.e. two from CPRG and two from CAP), as described below.

Phase II - Impactos Partner Case Study (IPCS) will be a single study comprised of four (4) additional CSO cases (2 from CPRG and 2 from CAP). The IPCS Case Study results will provide qualitative analysis on achievement of program goals for CSO influence on policy and good governance, as a complement to quantitative performance data. The purpose of this larger multi-case study, which will require cross-case analysis, is to amass the full array of contextual and focal information available from the four chosen partners. It will then document and assess key findings on CSO capabilities, strategies and tactics employed during Strategic Constructive Engagement (SCE) with governance institutions at levels of community, municipality and or national government.²⁹ The Case Study will explore and identify key factors that enabled Impactos ISO and CSO partners to successfully engage with governance institutions in furtherance of CPRG (good governance) and CAP (prevention of violence) objectives and results.

Currently envisioned as a "multiple-case, embedded themes, Case Study design," the focus will be on determining which of various CSO institutional and operational characteristics were instrumental in achieving (or not) effective CSO Strategic Constructive Engagement with Honduran governance institutions.

²⁹ *Governance* and *government* should not be regarded as almost synonymous. Governance institutions include both government and social institutions, the latter organized with quasi-governance purposes. For our purposes here, the Government refers to formal institutions of the state and their duly appointed or elected officials (municipalities, Ministries, formal committees with charters established by law or Presidential decree). Less formal social institutions comprised of community members use self-governing strategies in their interaction within their communities (e.g. Community Revitalization Committees (CRC), Municipal Prevention of Violence Committees, among other entities set up to address community development issues).

Summarized in Table 1, below, are the formative factors hypothesized as influencing the ability of CSOs to effectively achieve Strategic Constructive Engagement with governance institutions:

Table 9- CPRG/Impactos - Formative Factors for Strategic Constructive Engagement

Formative factors	Strategic Constructive Engagement
1. Level of Capacity Development - CSOs - Networks of CSOs	a. Knowledge, attitude and skills building in organizational development and program implementation areas of need; b. Ability to build broad based, multi-stakeholder networks at Community, Municipal, sub-regional, Regional and National levels. c. Qualifications to receive International Donor Assistance Cooperation Awards.
2. Enhancement of engagement platforms and spaces	a. Improve the access and utilization of existing strategic sub-regional and regional policy dialogue platforms enabling civil society and governance institutions to interact; b. Apply the knowledge, attitudes and new skills learned following a learning-by-doing approach; c. Provide Technical Assistance to select government entities.
3. Replication of Good Practices and Knowledge Management	a. Promoting knowledge sharing and learning among CSOs and governance institutions; b. Documenting and disseminating knowledge resources, lessons learned and success stories. c. Replicating good and fit practices in participatory governance d. Maximizing communications and technology to enable meaningful learning and performance on participatory governance.

It should be noted that this Strategic Constructive Engagement strategy envisions the achievement of both 'downstream' local development results and 'upstream' policy impact, and determination of the influence of formative factors should explore both.

A copy of the Case Study Protocol is provided as **Annex J**.

VI. ACHIEVEMENTS

The CPRG component has focused its efforts on enhancing the skills and competencies of grantee Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in order to: 1) conduct advocacy on public policies for transparency and accountability; 2) improve the capacity of public institutions to address loopholes, and 3) facilitate an enabling environment for CSOs to carry out their activities in the national context.

Such efforts have been led by the Intermediate Service Organizations (ISO), and by other Impact grantee CSOs. Important achievements by these partners this quarter include the following:

TRANSPARENCY

- FOPRIDEH facilitated and emphasized broadening and deepening stakeholder awareness of the OGP Plan in five regions of the country (West, North, North-east, Central and South), i.e. Prior to the formal consultation stage, enabling a discussion space enabling civil society organizations and citizens to raise important concerns and to offer suggestions related to achievement of OGP goals. During this stakeholder consultation phase, the three sectors comprising the working committee (civil society, private sector and government officials) accompanied the process with financial and technical support (USAID through the Impactos Program, World Bank and European Union). *Noteworthy, was a decided lack of GOH resources for the effort.*
- The Open Government Plan was officially launched by the Honduran Government on June 30th 2014, with participation of civil society, private enterprise, government, international cooperation and the diplomatic corps represented in the country.
- The Second Open Government Plan (PAGAH) developed through the Committee process included 13 OGP commitments the government has agreed to accept, as means to ensure compliance with the principles of the Open Government Partnership. These 13 commitments are divided into five themes:
 - 1) Access to Public Information,
 - 2) Ethics and Civil Service,
 - 3) Budget and Accountability,
 - 4) Procurement and Contracting, and
 - 5) Improving Public Services.
- On May 30, the NGO-D Self-Regulation Pilot System was launched. Its objective was to strengthen trust and integrity of individuals and organizations of the NGO-D sector to improve quality of services provided. The system was developed by CASM with technical assistance from the Impactos Program and ICNL, and through a participative process with NGO-D from all Honduras. A total of 19 CSOs subscribed to a letter of commitment to participate in the pilot process.
- In June, ALAC together with other CSOs involved in justice advocacy initiatives brought before the Public Ministry (MP) a total of 20 new cases of corruption in the Property Institute (IP) -- 8 in Tegucigalpa and 12 in San Pedro Sula.
- A total of 242 public officials (197 M and 202 F) were trained during events led by Impactos CSO grantees. The topics covered were as follows: Law of Access to Public Information, Code of the Civil Servant, Law of Transparency and Access to Public Information, HIV in Honduras and the Social Impact of the Epidemic, NGO-Ds' Law and Rule, Right to Free Association: International standards and international good practices, Youth Economic Development Policies, Law for Weapons' Control, Importance of the publication of Honduras

Floating Debt data in web pages, Managing accusations and complaints for the improvement of Ministry of Education services, and New methodology to evaluate transparency web pages.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- FOSDEH conducted over 2,000 interviews to media, publically highlighting 127 issues related to economic and public finance issues. Since the beginning of Impactos program support to FOSDEH, 2,010 press releases have been prepared and the information has been disseminated in more than 20 different written press media, TV and radio. On social networks, FOSDEH shared a series of documents with the latest information on the public budget.
- Design and installation of FOSDEH's electronic system for monitoring communications media, replacing the manual system used in previous years. This system enables FOSDEH team to monitor, in a timely manner and on real time on the web, the news of interest to the organization; allowing them to immediately analyze government reactions as a result of FOSDEH's advocacy actions.
- On April 9th, 2014 the FDsF held a workshop for 40 Honduran National Congress officials on the Law of Access to Public Information, held in cooperation with the government's Institute for Access to Public Information (IAIP). The public officials were oriented to accountability and transparency standards and received an instrument for quarterly reporting on the administration of Departmental Funds. These reports should be published and available to citizens on the Transparency Portal of the Honduras National Congress.
- On March 28th, a training workshop was conducted with the participation of 64 Public Information Officers (PIO). The Public officials were exposed to the full range of information and analysis that FOSDEH manages on public debt.
- On May 20th, a public event was carried out to disclose findings of the *floating debt* research. The findings were placed in the book "Old and New Challenges of Public Debt in Honduras." The informative book provides readers with important concepts on different types of debt (internal debt, external debt and floating debt); proportion and impacts of public debt in Honduras, and new modalities of public debt (e.g. bonds and trusts). The book provides conclusions and recommendations which will require new rigor on the part of the Honduran State in formulation, implementation, and management of public policy and institutions.
- C- Libre and IAIP agreed on a joint Work Plan to design two tools: 1) the new methodology to evaluate compliance with the LTAIP and 2) a Manual for Public Information Officers (PIOs). This new methodology will include a new approach called "Proactive Transparency," meaning citizen participation is taken into account to achieve compliance with the right of Access to Public Information. i.e., citizens are able to identify in public transparency web pages information that has a social meaning.

GENDER

- FOSDEH identified dialogue platforms and spaces to promote advocacy on the subject of gender in public administration, mainly in the financial system. During the implementation of the grant, FOSDEH was able to form partnerships with UN Women³⁰ and other women

³⁰ ONU Mujer, Entidad de la ONU para la Igualdad de Género y el Empoderamiento de la Mujer - More at: <http://www.unwomen.org/es/about-us/about-un-women#sthash.SyetLKYt.dpuf>

networks at local level for the exchange of information on the gender impact on fields related to fiscal policies. FOSDEH together with its partners has been able to generate partnership to demand the inclusion of gender indicators in the country's financial system. This action will be a focus of interest for the grant's renewal.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

- CIPRODEH provided technical assistance to CSOs (CODEH, CPTRT, GSC, CDH, and COMPARTIR) aimed at strengthening advocacy capacity of their technical teams in public policies and political dialogue in order to approach their target audience of decision-makers for advocacy initiatives. All of the aforementioned CSOs participated in the education process of the certified course "Comprehensive Citizen Security Respectful of the Rule of Law." The level of participation achieved and the issues promoted by the CSOs require continuity technical assistance and accompaniment provided by CIPRODEH beyond the actions and schedules foreseen in the grant.
- FOROSIDA designed an advocacy plan, which seeks to repeal the health recovery fee and other expenses for patients living with HIV. The advocacy actions developed by FOROSIDA included multiples contacts with National AIDS Commission (CONASIDA), National Congress and Ministry of Health (MOH) to promote affirmative action for repeal of the recovery fee and other expenses for services provided to people living with HIV. To date FOROSIDA has collected a total of 2,700 signatures, with an established goal of 3,000, to be presented to the appropriate authorities as support for affirmative action.

SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT

- FOSDEH's capacity as a training and technical assistance provider organization was strengthened, as evidenced in their joint effort with the Honduras National Autonomous University (UNAH) to design and administer an online classroom for other entities and participants. The development of a certified course on "Fiscal Research for Advocacy" required an enormous effort by FOSDEH in collaboration with the UNAH. To provide technical assistance for participants, an online classroom was created within FOSDEH's website, a space that enabled three-way communication among FOSDEH technicians, students and faculty.
- A total of 399 people working with CSOs grantees (197 M and 202 F) were trained in events led by the four ISOs. The topics covered were as follows: CSO Project Cycle, management project strategies, the design of a self-regulation pilot system, and sessions on sensitizing CSOs for the official government inquiry on the construction of the second OGP action plan (PAGAH).

CPRG's achievements as measured by the PMEP are described in Annex A- CPRG Achievements Fy14 QR3

VII. CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY

The IMPACTOS program designs action plans with due attention to women's empowerment and gender equity issues, incorporating the vision and opportunities for gender mainstreaming found within both components (CAP and CPRG). Our incorporation of gender sensitive programming responds to the recommendations of the Counterpart International Gender Assessment published in February of 2013.³¹ The Impactos "Gender Statement" is provided as **Annex I**.

- **Mainstreaming a gender perspective throughout the project cycle of both components, the priorities for implementation have been:**
 - a) Incorporating gender perspective as a cross-cutting and/or affirmative action in the RFA's
 - b) Addition of gender issues in training plans, internal capacity building and trainings developed with CSOs.
 - c) Incorporating gender perspective in logical frameworks of granted projects, as agreed to by partner CSOs.
 - d) Identify, with the support of Impactos and partner gender advisory groups, the criteria for good practices, and support the collection of technical information required.
- **Encourage critical analysis and research that directly promotes gender equality and empowerment** of women in governance, transparency and accountability (CPRG) and prevention of violence initiatives (CAP), objectives which are linked to both gender indicators of program impacts.
- **Public Awareness and Advocacy** - Both CAP and CPRG identify examples of good practices and achievements that allow sharing of knowledge in a wide learning community and using alternative means of exchange. Examples already identified include: Monitoring gender economic indicators in the national budget (performed by FOSDEH) and gender-sensitive Municipal Participatory Budget (ADELSAR).
- **Integration and role of the Consultative Group on Gender Integrating Gender Advisory Group** - the Impactos advisory working group -- composed of selected technicians within the two program components (CPRG and CAP) and technicians from partner CSOs -- assesses guidelines for elaboration of specific partner plans to encourage incorporation of a gender perspective, and taking into account the needs and interest of men and women as they relate to Impactos Program goals and areas of implementation.

³¹ See Counterpart International, "Gender in Honduras: Effectively Integrating Gender into Civil Society – Gender Assessment Report, dated February 2013, available online at http://www.counterpart.org/images/uploads/Honduras%20Gender%20Assessment%20FINAL_%20External.pdf

VIII. SECURITY

During this reporting period, the Impactos Program provided CSOs with Safety and Security Training through development of dissemination of Standardized Operating Procedures (SOPs), Corporate Security, and introduction to personal prevention measures as a means to minimize security risks to Impactos program grantees located in higher threat areas. The following table provides information on security trainings held for five (5) CSO grantees representing a total of 64 participants (27 women / 37 men):

Civil Society Organization Staff Members Trained On Safety and Security			
CSOS	F	M	TOTAL
ADELSAR	8	8	16
ALAC	2	3	5
Children International	7	6	13
EROC	3	12	15
FUNADEH	7	8	15
TOTAL	27	37	64



Among other security related activities are the following;

- On June 3rd, the Impactos program security officer participated in an Overseas Security Advisory Council. These meetings are held with other security officers from the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS, and leader of the group); Germany's Embassy Security Office, Spain's Embassy Security Office, Canada's Embassy Security Office, the French Embassy Security Office, and entities such as; **GOAL**, **CREA**, Global Communities, Zamorano University, **Loto**, and **CHF** development Agencies among others. The objective of these meetings is to share information on locations in which conflicts and incidents have occurred to local citizens and foreign offices, mitigation measures established and trend analysis on drug trafficking, gang related activities, human trafficking and other security threats.
- On June 5th, the security officer shared USAID Logos security regulations with all the Program's Office Staff.
- Between June 17 – 19, as part of the direct assistance provided by the Impactos Security officer visiting their communities, CSOs located in the cities of Tela and La Ceiba continued implementing their approaches to strengthening the security strategy recommended by the Impactos program. During the same period, the Impactos Program security officer continued mapping security issues countrywide in areas where grants are being implemented.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS

The Impactos Program Website is used to promote activities, mechanisms and tools used by partner CSOs and beneficiaries, with the purpose of promoting public policies oriented to encourage transparency and accountability. The website shares information on community revitalization and violence prevention, and encourages citizen participation and social empowerment. Below is a screenshot of the webpage:

During the quarter, the Program's website (www.programaimpactos.org) has been visited 2,411 times by 1,398 people (the latter, "unique hits"), of which (according to website registration information) 47.33% are female and 52.67% are male. The user database increased by 26.56%, and now totals 1,444 subscribers (Media, CSOs and Community members). A total of 16 newsletters were published and viewed by 2,270 unique readers, representing an 11.22% read rate.

In this period, our fan page on Facebook received a total of 2,893 views by 501 unique visitors, a reach (number of people who saw any of the publications) of 1,322 users, 8,159 impressions (number of views obtained for any associated content). Thirty (30) new users joined the fan page, which has now reached a total of 159 fans of which 80 users (50.31%) are female and 79 users (49.69%) are male.

The YouTube videos have been viewed 139 times, including 167 minutes of playback.



X. EXPENDITURES

BUDGET EXECUTION

- Accruals reported: USD \$9,349,461.86 as of the SF-425 submitted to USAID at the close of the quarter (June 2014). This amount represents ninety two (92%) of the total obligated amount of USD \$10,168,081.81, and sixty two (62%) of the total approved program budget of UDS \$14,966,246.00.
- Expenditures for the project during the quarter from April to June 2014 were USD \$1,117,411 (not inclusive of cost share)
 - Expenditures for CPRG during the quarter from April to June 2014 were USD \$545,090.
 - Expenditures for CAP during the quarter from April to June 2014 were USD \$573,321
- This quarter, the field office received cash advances totaling \$436,371.51, of which \$792,500.96 (-182%) was expended. This situation is related two main reasons: (1) the balance of Impactos accounts for the previous quarter was \$ 102,577.10 and (2) the balance for our sub grantees at the end of march was \$ 510,946.34
 - Of the \$792,500.96, expended, \$487,047.90 (61%) were grants and \$305,453.06 (39%) were field operation costs
 - The total Grantee validated expenditures of \$487,047.90 are disaggregated as follows: (1) CAP grants \$274,338.81 (56%); (2) CPRG grants \$212,709.09 (44%)
 - 17 CSO's closed the financial activities during this quarter.
- Reported \$101,630.05 in cost share from 13 CSO's during the quarter disaggregated as follow: (1) CAP \$ 38,992.30 (38%) and (2) CPRG \$ 62,637.75 (62%)

XI. PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

CPRG

OBJETIVO 1	
Activity 1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct grants award process and management of: TIG (4), NGOG (4), TRAG (2), PICG (3) • Deliver technical assistance to grantees on grants solicitations and management. • Conduct induction training for new grantees. • Provide gender training induction to grantees. • Provide Technical Assistance to grantees on gender strategies for advocacy, governance and human rights. • Establish a gender working group to support and monitor the Impactos gender contributions. • Train and refresh Counterpart's local and network partners in use of the KMS. • Technical Assistance to grantees on the Impactos Branding Strategy. • Provide Honduras staff with basic knowledge on cycle of project gender mainstreaming.
Activity 1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold workshops for 4 ISOs in grants closure activities. • Hold workshop to fine-tune the primary role and needs of the 4 ISO partners focused on sustainability. • Review new proposals of TIGs facing program closure to ensure continuity of program activities. • Conduct baseline study for ISOs • Startup workshop for strategic planning for ISO interventions according to CPRG Objectives. • Hold informative workshop between Impactos grantees and ISO partners.
Activity 1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct Intermediate evaluation on Institutional Strengthening Plan. • Coordinate training needs assessment with new ISOs and strategic planning workshop. • Two CSO effective advocacy methodology workshops at national level.
Activity 1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire consultant to assess the viability and need for a movement with a gender perspective. • Gender Working Group meetings • Design and implement workshops and forums of the knowledge sharing and anticorruption issues and solutions with gender perspective aim to CSOs.
Activity 1.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a workshop to review the performance of the four NGOG grantees engaged in PY4. • Develop the selection process of 4 NGOG grantees. • Sign grant agreements with new grantees. • Disburse grants.
Activity 1.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a consolidated list of consultant skill summaries and training capacities, along with procedures for assessing consultations. • Provide discrete technical assistance and consultations in different thematic areas to government agencies. • Provide discrete technical assistance and consultations to CSOs.
Activity 1.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the first phase of validation of the CSO self-regulation model.
Activity 1.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disburse grants • Sign grant agreements with new grantees. • Develop selection process of 3 PICG grantees
Activity 1.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In conjunction with Honduran CSOs, offer training on international law and best practices related

	<p>to implementation of the NGO-D Law and its Regulations, and provide trainings as offers are accepted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor legislative initiatives relevant to CSOs; present written and oral comments. • Provide assistance to ISOs in analyzing and developing proposals for reform of tax laws and other legislation related to CSOs. • Promote exchanges between ISOs and international experts on fiscal laws to improve its expertise in the matter.
Activity 1.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the selection process of the 2 TRAG grantees. • Sign grant agreements with new grantees. • Disburse grants.
Activity 1.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of the CSOs grantees' action plans regarding key themes.
Activity 1.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct RFA orientation/proposal development and feedback. • Sign grant agreements with ASJ. • Disburse grant. • Monitor ALAC grant implementation.
Activity 2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate the use of tools and methodologies in implementation for the Learning Community. • Follow-up on/provide TA to the TSC Directorate and TSC-DASM and IAIP to improve staff skills.
OBJECTIVE 2	
Activity 2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage participation of reform minded leaders in CPRG activities. • Create three standing government/CSO issue-specific communication bodies. • Facilitate introductory and ongoing meetings of the three communication bodies. • Promote CSO and government institutional site visits.
Activity 2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training or TA on Citizen Engagement and Public Communications. • Provide resources to executive branch officials on international best practices relevant to Honduran legislation.
Activity 2.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate dialogue and tangible cooperation between CSOs and government entities. • Continue strengthening relationships with government institutions such as Superior Court of Accounts and the IAIP, Vice President's office, and the Public Ministry. • Development of a National Transparency Forum
Activity 2.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue Rapid Response Grants as needs/opportunities arise. • If more than 25% remains in RRG pool, issue RFA for RRG. • Sign grant agreements with new grantees.

ANNEXES